

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

AS MINIMUM WAGE RISES TO \$6.55/HOUR

'Not all businesses can afford to pay hike in minimum wage'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Not all employers could afford to increase the minimum wage of their workers, especially small businesses like mom and pop stores. The minimum wage will increase to \$6.55 per hour from \$6.05 starting on Sept. 30, 2016, another step before it goes to the federal level of \$7.25 in 2018.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios said this has been one of their concerns when they held a recent poll among their members. The small business owners' operations would be adversely effected if it would increase the hourly rate of their employees right away.

"[Small business owners] has been



Palacios

our concern. Our only concern was, like the mom and pop stores, the very small businesses. Right now, I know a lot of people and business like that and they may not be able to have that increase right away," said Palacios.

One way that the CNMI government and the business sector See **WAGE** on **Page 4**



EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATORS COURSE

A firefighter drives a fire truck between lines of cones during the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services' emergency vehicle operators course recertification and certification of newly graduated firefighters at the Lower Miha housing yesterday. The new firefighters also undergo training on proper driving an ambulance during the course that started Tuesday and ended yesterday.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

INSIDE



LOCAL

The Senate honored local businessman Jose "Joe" Cruz Ayuyu Sr. for his career as an entrepreneur and his strong support of various community organizations.

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ASIA

A former Filipino militiaman testified that President Rodrigo Duterte, when he was still a city mayor, ordered him and other members of a liquidation squad to kill criminals.

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LIFE & STYLE

President Barack Obama will honor actors Mel Brooks and Morgan Freeman with the 2015 National Medal of Arts.

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IN PROPOSED FY '17 BUDGET

Senate earmarks \$47M from projected BGRT

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

» Budget deliberations continue today

The Senate made amendments on House Concurrent Resolution 19-4, which hopes for the Legislature to appropriate the projected \$47 million from the business gross revenue tax collected at the end of this fiscal year. Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) authored the resolution.

HCR 19-4 acknowledges for legis-
See **SENATE** on **Page 4**

AS ECONOMY CONTINUES TO REBOUND:

Larson: Govt has more funds to go around

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Larson

Finally for a change, the CNMI government has more funding to go around because of the upswing in the local economy, according to Department of Finance Secretary Larrissa Larson, who served as the keynote speaker of the first- See **LARSON** on **Page 4**

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Local

Senate confirms Esther Yatar as Rota CEC rep

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Senate confirmed Esther Yatar as Rota's representative to the Commonwealth Election Commission. Eight senators voted yes with Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) voting in the affirmative with reservations, while Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota) abstained.

Manglona said that although he voted yes, it would be better for Yatar to address the issues that always come up on Rota every election year. "The nominee is a former human resources administrator under the Rota

Mayor's Office."

"And the Rota Mayor is the GOP party chair. That is a concern for me. When it comes to issues on Rota, I wish that [Yatar], should actively participate on Rota matters to remove all appearance of conflict of interest," added Manglona.

He said that every election, the Municipality of Rota has a lot of challenges and he is hopeful that with Yatar being the representative they would not have a lot of challenges anymore. "We just want a fair process on Rota,"

Santos, on the other hand, abstained from voting since

See SENATE on Next Page

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Cabrera attends Ocean Conference in DC



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Friends of the Monument chair Ignacio "Ike" V. Cabrera poses with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry at the opening of the 3rd Our Ocean Conference in Washington, D.C.

Ignacio "Ike" V. Cabrera, chairman of the Friends of the Monument, attended the opening of the 3rd Our Ocean Conference in Washington, D.C. last Sept. 14. Cabrera was invited to attend the conference and an opening dinner hosted by The Pew Charitable Trusts because of his critical role in creating the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument.

"There is still lots of work to do with our monument," said Cabrera, "so I asked Secretary of State John Kerry for his support."

Cabrera also met with government officials and

SENATE

From Page 2

she has immediate family members and other relatives who are working at the Rota Mayor's Office. "I've immediate family members and relatives who are employees of the Municipality of Rota."

"Ms. [Esther] Yatar served as the human resources manager of the Municipality of Rota and it may raise an appearance of conflict of interest. Should this not be the case, I would vote in favor of her nomination," Santos added.

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'BSI should partner with FBI'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Casino Commission chair Juan M. Sablan suggested to officials of Imperial Pacific International Hold-

ings to consider partnering with the FBI since it is now the norm that is being followed by some Las Vegas casinos.

Sablan, in yesterday's board meeting, said that has been the FBI's message now

to help casinos combat illegal gambling and keep money laundering in check.

"The message from the FBI and the federal people is, let's partner. We won't hide on the side, let's partner."

Best Sunshine International, Ltd., Imperial Pacific's subsidiary, is the lone casino op-

erating on Saipan after being awarded a 25-year license to build and operate a gaming facility. BSI currently has a live training facility, renting a portion of T Galleria Saipan, as it awaits the completion of the Grand Mariana Casino Hotel and Resort early next year.

"They [BSI] should work

with the FBI and partner with them. It has been standard training in Las Vegas to partner and work with them. They [FBI] want to work with the casinos in the states, so it is also better for BSI to also partner with them," said Sablan.

He added that times have

changed right now. "It is a different approach now. They are partnering with the casinos. Before they are outside the house, now they are inside."

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

WAGE

From Page 1

could cope with the wholesale increase in minimum is having a salary range for each job category, a practice now being followed by three U.S. territories—American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Guam's minimum wage is \$8.25, \$1 higher than the federal rate.

American Samoa's minimum wage rate divided for its 16 industries is from \$4.58 to \$5.99 broken down into \$4.58 for garment manufacturing; \$4.60 for miscellaneous activities; \$4.81 for government, \$4.90 for hotel; \$5.00 for retail, wholesale, and warehouse;

Bottling, brewing, and dairy workers receive \$5.09 an hour; \$5.16 for fish canning and processing; \$5.23 for private hospitals and educational institutions; \$5.40 for printing; \$5.38 for tourism and travel; \$5.41 for ship maintenance; \$5.50 for construction; \$5.53 for publishing; \$5.75 for petroleum; and \$5.89 for finance and insurance.

Shipping and transportation has three classes with those in A (stevedoring, lighterage, and maritime shipping agency activities) getting \$5.99; B (unloading fish) \$5.82; and C (other activities) \$5.78.

Puerto Rico also varies by industry from \$5.08 to \$7.25, while the U.S. Virgin Islands too follow the federal rate of \$7.25 an hour except for businesses that have an annual gross receipt of less than \$150,000 where \$6.90 is used.

\$7.25 before 2018

Palacios said even with the minimum wage at \$6.05 most of their members are already paying higher than the minimum wage. "Because we have to remain competitive and as a business we also wanted to retain our productive workers."

She added that Chamber members are also supporting or immediately complying with the \$7.25 federal minimum wage even before the Sept. 30, 2018 full implementation not just a hike of 0.50 centavos.

She said majority that they polled approved having the

CNMI minimum wage at the federal level. "We conducted a survey among our members, both the minimum wage and the prevailing wage, and majority of them support an increase of the minimum wage to \$7.25, not only the .50 cents increase that it would take effect on Sept. 30."

"Most of our members are

already paying more than the [current] minimum wage of \$6.05.

Most of the Chamber

members have the capacity

to pay the increase on the

minimum wage on Sept. 30,"

added Palacios.

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) also has a pending bill, House Bill 19-187, in the CNMI Legislature that also aims to increase the Commonwealth's minimum wage

"sooner than the federal transition period provided by U.S.

Public Law 10-28."

Palacios said that increasing the minimum wage would make the CNMI more competitive especially with the current situation in the CW-1 transitional worker visa program.

"Right now we're experiencing a shortage in labor and we also

have competition."

"People or employees and residents have that opportunity now to go and seek jobs elsewhere. So as a business you want to pay your employees well and to retain them to because it is hard to find workers that you had already invested with."

"If you lose them, you have to start over, and that's been a difficult thing for most businesses right now," added Palacios.

Continued development

Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan (Ind-MP) said raising the minimum wage is one way

to bring more U.S. workers to the CNMI.

"Since the minimum wage began to increase in 2007, the number of U.S. workers rose from 13,246 to 15,137, according to date from the [CNMI] government."

The data is inclusive of workers from the Freely Associated States. The average annual wage paid to U.S. workers also increased from \$10,685 to \$14,296 in the same period.

Sablan said that on Sept. 30, 2017, the minimum wage

would increase to \$7.05 before reaching the federal level of \$7.25 in 2018. He, however, co-sponsors House Resolution 2150 in the U.S. Congress to lift the minimum wage to \$12 per hour with annual increases after to be determined by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands chair Gloria Cavanagh also said their member hotels have the capacity to pay their employees the .50-cent increase but cautioned that tourism is a "fragile industry."

"HANMI fortunately does have the capacity this time to absorb the expense. [But] we must always remember that our tourism market is an extremely fragile industry," said Cavanagh.

"Since the increase of funding for [the] Marianas Visitors Authority from the additional five percent Hotel Occupancy Tax in 2013, Saipan has experienced healthy annual occupancy rates and increase average rates. We must encourage keeping the integrity of these funds."

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) believes

that now is the time for CNMI residents, who studied and worked in the mainland, to comeback to the island and work here. "With the continued development, I would like to think that our people somehow would comeback to the island and work here."

"Because some of them studied in the mainland and it would be better for them to come back here and share what they have learned, since right now the salaries are competitive and the minimum wage is going up to the federal level in two years time."

He added that some of the CNMI residents decided to leave during the time when the economy was stagnant. "They left because at that time, at that point, the economy was stagnant, there were not enough employment opportunities, and the minimum wage then was low."

"I think this is the right time for them to return and work again in the CNMI while minimum wage is increasing. That would certainly help our people if they consider coming back and again be a part of the local economy."

SENATE

From Page 1

lative appropriation the money for land compensation payments, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., LEAC subsidies for CNMI ratepayers,

CNMI Medical Referral Program, and the Public School System.

"Pursuant to Article III, Section 9 (a) of the Commonwealth Constitution, as amended and 1 CMC 7201, 7202, and 7203, the governor shall submit to the Legislature

a proposed annual balanced budget for the following fiscal year and the proposed balanced budget shall describe anticipated revenues of the [CNMI] and recommend expenditures of Commonwealth funds," as stated on HCR 19-4.

The Legislature has already

adopted HCR 19-1 where \$149,452,562 was already identified as the resources available for appropriation.

"The funds collected pursuant to 4 CMC 2308 remain in the non-lapsing account established by the Secretary of Finance until such time that

the Legislature makes an appropriation to use the funds for LEAC, CHCC, Medical Referral, Land Compensation Judgments, and PSS."

Senate Vice President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) said the money could not be included in the general appropriations since

it has already been earmarked for this fiscal year. "This is not part of the fund that is appropriated for the fiscal year."

The Senate resumes its session at 2pm today hoping to deliberate further and pass the budget so they could transmit it to the House.

LARSON

From Page 1

ever CNMI Business and Finance Conference held yesterday at the Saipan World Resort.

"Over the last couple of years, we have experienced a surge of development in our tourism industry. Large businesses are regaining their footing. More and more small businesses are popping up. As a result, unemployment has been dropping as more jobs become available," said Larson.

The Finance chief, speaking in behalf of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres who is off-island on official business, explained that along with the improvement of the economy, the government has been making priority adjustments with funding, now that it has a little more to delegate.

"With this current trend of economic growth, the Torres-Hocog (Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog) team and their administration recognize the opportunity to fulfill many of the government's financial obligations, while simultaneously increasing the efficacy of public services," said Larson. "In just five years, we have seen our revenue almost double from that low point in 2011 and thankfully, we only see more growth and economic recovery on the horizon."

Larson expects another boom in economic growth, especially with the opening of the much-awaited Grand Mariana Casino & Hotel Resort, which would bring not only more accommodation and recreational choices for the tourists, but more importantly, abundant job openings for locals.

"Construction of the Grand

Mariana has advanced progressively over the last year and anticipates a partial opening in early 2017, which will increase the number of rooms available in the market and introduce new activities and products for our visiting tourists and local consumers."

Larson acknowledged the roles of entrepreneurs, who have also greatly contributed to the economic growth of the CNMI. "We recognize the vital role our business community has made to our economic growth and recovery and it is critical that we take this recognition to the next level and enhance the foundations that have already been put in place by our partners who are all here today."

She also foreshadowed the upcoming happenings in the conference. "The people here in this room are leaders—across industries, government, and the private sector. The

conversations we have these next two days will be about identifying important steps to addressing key barriers to greater access to economic opportunities, providing more lending opportunities for small businesses, and finding new approaches to include young people and aspiring business owners in our growing economy," she said.

"I say this because the economy is everyone's business, and at the end of the day, it is all about bettering the lives of the people who call these islands home," said Larson as she signed off.

Bank of Guam VP Credit officer Mike Naholowaa and BOG VP/CNMI Regional manager Marcie Tomokane were both extremely pleased and partially astounded with the turnout for the confab.

"One-hundred and seventy people! What's funny is when we first did this, about 50

showed up," shared an enthusiastic Naholowaa. "We have one more day tomorrow and it's going to be awesome, because we have the federal people to come up for programs, but we're also going to have a lot of businesses talk about what is needed from us in order to be successful, whether it's from the private companies, banks, or even the government, we're going to hear what they have to say."

Tomokane added that tomorrow would be another day of business education. "The small and large businesses would also be talking about where they came from. From then, to now, and where they are today. Be it small or large, they would probably make a presentation based on how they grew," she said.

Naholowaa thinks that along with the economic boom that the CNMI is currently experiencing, the businesses would

prosper, therefore benefitting the community.

"Hopefully with this conference and with Marcie's support, we should be able to help businesses. If the businesses are able to get financing and able to help themselves with the business, this is something that would go a long way in improving the CNMI," said Naholowaa. "If the customer is successful, then the bank is successful. If we're all successful, then the community is successful. That is the mission."

The second day of the Business and Finance Conference will be from 8:30am to 4pm at the Royal Taga Hall in Saipan World Resort.

Bank of Guam, Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and the Commonwealth Development Authority are hosting the conference aimed at sharing information about business and financing.

8th court-appointed counsel for convicted child molester has withdrawn from case

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday granted the request of attorney David G. Banes to withdraw as court-appointed counsel for Alfredo Evangelista Reyes, a man who was convicted for sexually abusing a then 16-year-old girl in 2009.

Camacho noted that Banes is the eighth court-appointed counsel for Reyes who filed a motion to withdraw citing numerous reasons.

Camacho said a new counsel will be appointed to assist the defendant.

A status conference will be on Sept. 28, 2016 at 9am. Reyes remains in custody at the Department of Corrections.

In a motion to withdraw, Banes said Reyes has demanded him to file multiple motions, including to recuse Camacho, for bias and prejudice, from serving as his sentencing judge.

Banes said for multiple reasons, he is reluctant to file these motions particularly the motion to recuse.

The lawyer said he is convinced that he cannot be an effective counsel for Reyes, which has created another and independent conflict and so another basis for him to withdraw as his counsel.

Banes added that Reyes has repeatedly accused him of not effectively representing him, which is another basis for withdrawing as it was for defendant's former counsel.

Banes said he explained to Reyes the situation and that the defendant stated he no longer wants him to be his counsel.

On Dec. 13, 2013, a Superior Court jury reached a verdict, finding Reyes guilty of three counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Camacho, who presided over the misdemeanor charges, found the defendant guilty of three counts of assault and battery.

On Jan. 22, 2014, Camacho sentenced the then-51-year-old Reyes to the maximum sentence of 30 years imprisonment.

Reyes appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court.

In April 2016, the CNMI Supreme Court affirmed the conviction of Reyes, but found that Camacho abused his discretion by denying the defendant's request for a pre-sentence investigation report.

The high court vacated the sentence and remanded the matter to the Superior Court for resentencing. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Life In Motion

Probationer admits using 'ice,' says friends offered drugs

Jesse Juan Teigita Dowai, a man on federal probation for pleading guilty to conspiracy to commit visa fraud and to defraud the U.S. government in connection with his fake marriage to a Chinese national, was tested positive for using

methamphetamine and admitted that some friends offered him the drugs while at a beach.

The U.S. Probation Office on Wednesday asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue summons to Dowai and asked him to explain why his probation should not be revoked. The court granted the request yesterday.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola stated in his report that on Dec. 15, 2014, an informational report was filed with the court after Dowai admitted using "ice" on Aug. 31, 2014 and Oct. 6, 2014, marijuana on Oct. 6, 2014, and consumed alcohol on Nov. 18, 2014.

Arriola said that on June 22, 2016, the defendant was subjected to a drug test and the result was presumptive positive for "ice" use.

Arriola said Dowai denied using any illicit drugs and the urine sample was sent to the National Laboratory for confirmation testing.

On July 3, 2016, the laboratory report was received which revealed a positive result for methamphetamine and amphetamine.

On July 8, 2016, Dowai reported to the U.S. Probation Office for a noncompliance meeting, in which he explained he used "ice" on June 21, 2016 due to personal stressors.

As a result, Arriola said, the defendant was regressed to phase 1 of the drug-testing program and also returned to substance abuse treatment at a rate of three group sessions per month.

On July 12, 2016, Dowai was subjected to a drug test, which was presumptive positive for "ice" use.

Arriola said that on July 13, 2016 during a noncompliance meeting, Dowai explained that he was offered "ice" while at a beach with some friends.

Arriola said Dowai stated he thought he could smoke the drug "for the last time" because he did not think he would be tested the following day.

As a result, the defendant's treatment program regimen was modified to include two additional individual counseling sessions per month.

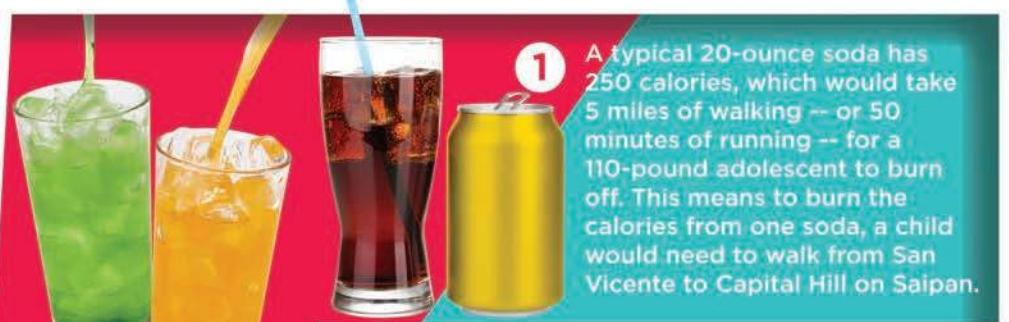
On supervision compliance, Arriola said, Dowai is compliant with his substance abuse treatment program requirements. He paid his \$100 special assessment fee and submitted to DNA collection.

In June 2014, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Dowai to three years of probation, perform 50 hours of community work service, and participate in a substance abuse treatment program. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



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4
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5
Those who consume sugary drinks regularly -- 1 to 2 cans a day or more -- have a 26% greater risk of developing type 2 diabetes than people who rarely have such drinks.



Sources: kickthecan.org • publichealthadvocacy.org • Boston Public Health Commission



PDM CLEANUP

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the cleanup crew organized by PDM Promoters look for trash to pick up at its most recent monthly cleanup of the Paseo de Marianas.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the cleanup crew are happy with their snacks and treats courtesy of Mike Sablan.

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By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinare@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

International House of Pancakes, or iHOP, today will be hosting the luncheon for the second day of the first-ever CNMI Business and Finance Conference hosted by Bank of Guam, Commonwealth Development Authority, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

Carlos Camacho, a partner with the Pacific Pancakes CNMI LLC, which is the franchise for iHOP, has generously stepped up to help with the luncheon.

"We're here to support CDA, Bank of Guam, and Saipan Chamber of Commerce on their endeavors to put out an outreach campaign on educating the public about economic opportunities and how we [continue to improve] the economy here on Saipan," said Camacho.

He also stated that despite being from Guam, he sees the opportunity to invest as a way

to invite others to invest on Saipan as well.

"We're from Guam and we believe that Saipan is [rising] in regards to tourism and growth, so we viewed some of the programs available as discussed in the conference today. One offer by CDA to the State Small Business Credit Initiative with the partnership of the Bank of Guam is what lured us over here as they said they are looking for entrepreneurs to use these resources," said Camacho.

"As Oscar Camacho of CDA said, they have a lot of resources and we're hoping to be a case study to a lot of other entrepreneurs within the region of Guam, and even Saipan itself, to entice them to say 'here's a program, it's been done, and let's grow the economy here on Saipan."

The CNMI Business and Finance Conference was the first of its kind on Saipan. According to Bank of Guam VP Credit Officer Mike Naholowaa, the event is bound to happen again, however it would not be an annual event.

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There are 165 registered voters for the Northern Islands, but the Commonwealth Election Commission may save thousands of dollars at this Nov. 8 general election because no one is currently staying on the islands, according to CEC acting executive director Julita A. Villagomez.

Villagomez in an interview yesterday said most of the 165 Northern Islands voters are residing on Saipan and their voting place is at Precinct 4 or Tanapag and San Roque villages.

Villagomez said the remaining few people on the Northern Islands were evacuated recently because of a typhoon.

CEC is hoping that no one will go back to the Northern Islands during election so CEC does not have to charter a boat just to get a few votes.

Villagomez disclosed that in the last 2014 gubernatorial election, CEC chartered a boat at a discounted price of \$9,000

Judge Camacho wants dormant probate cases in CNMI to move forward

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has noticed that many probate cases in the CNMI have been obviously dormant for many years.

Camacho said in an effort to move probate cases forward, especially cases that have languished due to lack of attention, he will be setting status conferences on these dormant cases in the coming months.

Camacho has been assigned at the Probate Court on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, as of last May.

In his letter to the courts and lawyers yesterday, the judge encouraged probate administrators, executors, and counsels to review their probate files and endeavor to bring the probate of the estate to a final closure.

"Probate cases are intended to solve and bring closure to the decedent's estate so that creditors will be paid and heirs can move on with their lives," Camacho pointed out.

Probate cases, the judge said, are not to be used as a poor substitute for a long-term family trust as this is not a proper legal mechanism.

He said probate cases should not be intended for the long-term administration of family land or businesses.

Camacho urged administrators, executors, and estate lawyers to file a request for a status conference so that these dormant probate cases are addressed in a timely manner and brought to closure.

Camacho likewise noted that the CNMI Rules of Probate Procedures has not been updated since 1996.

The judge said as chair of the Probate Rules Committee he invites members of the CNMI Bar Association to participate in the modernization and updating of the Rules of Probate Procedures. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

165 voters for Northern Islands, but none currently staying on NI

just to get six votes from Pagan and Alamagan.

Villagomez said CEC

would usually send a charted boat to the Northern Islands three days before the election,

if the weather permits.

Meanwhile, as of yesterday, there are a total of 17,898 reg-

istered voters in the CNMI. A total of 774 are new voters.

Saipan has 14,307 voters; Ti-

nian has 1,681, and Rota has 1,910, according to CEC records. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



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Joe Ayuyu Sr., eighth left, joins members of his family and members of the Senate after receiving a resolution honoring his various achievements in business and the community.

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Senate honors businessman Joe Ayuyu

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate honored local businessman Jose "Joe" Cruz Ayuyu Sr. for his career as an entrepreneur and his strong support of various community organizations. Ayuyu's family owns the two McDonald's restaurants on Saipan. Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) introduced Senate Resolution 19-46.

Recently, the Ayuyus acquired the six outlets of McDonald's in Guam where he personally oversees the

daily operations. He usually spends his weekends on Saipan with his wife Marcia, and two of their five kids Mable and Jose Jr. Nadia, Ashley, and Maria are their other kids.

After graduating at the Lisbon Public High School in Lisbon in North Dakota in 1971, the elder Ayuyu, attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Economics in 1975.

Ayuyu, who earned a college scholarship, knows the value of hard work as he took various jobs to support his daily expenses while studying at UH-Manoa. He returned to Saipan to work in the CNMI government as the Commerce and Labor department's acting director.

He then worked for Bank of Guam from 1982 to 1989 where he became a manager of the Agana branch before being promoted to one of its vice presidents. He returned to Saipan to handle Hakubutan Saipan Enterprises Inc. as vice president and general manager from 1989 to 1993.

Ayuyu was recognized by various business organizations and was nominated as Executive of the Year in 2012 by *Guam Business Magazine*. He co-founded and was the first president of the Majuro Chamber of Commerce in the Republic of the Marshall Islands from 1984 to 1986.

He was also an active

member of the community where he held various positions in different organizations with his company supporting numerous non-profit groups.

Ayuyu said it was his vision to give back to the community ever since opening the first McDonald's store on Saipan in 1993. "I want the community to remember me as a simple businessman that created something that the community needed."

"We just take the success that we have and share it with the community. That's why we always support different organizations and we're very much involved in the CNMI community," added Ayuyu.

He added that he enjoyed being part of the McDonald's company and having a family-run business on Saipan and now in Guam. "It is all about family. For the past 23 years, my wife was my business partner."

Ayuyu's wife, Marcia, and their two kids Mable and Joe Jr. are helping him run their company with the operations of their two outlets on Saipan. They have about 400 employees in Guam alone.

He thanked the 19th CNMI Senate, particularly Manglona, for honoring him and his contributions. "I'm very proud and very happy. Thank you Sen. Manglona for introducing the Senate Resolution. I'm glad and also thankful that all [senators] supported the resolution."

500 Sails featured on Sunday's 'Your Humanities Half-Hour'

500 Sails Inc. president Emma Perez will share her organization's vision to restore a maritime tradition in the Marianas by putting 500 traditional-style sailing canoes in the water by 2030.

Perez will discuss how the vision was birthed, the organization's current plans to begin the work quickly and cost-effectively, and most importantly, what this renaissance may mean for the Marianas, culturally, socially, and

economically.

Perez's project is supported by a Community Grant awarded to 500 Sails Inc. by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council.

More information about 500 Sails Inc. is available online at <http://www.500sails.org/>.

"Your Humanities Half-Hour," which airs each Sunday from 2pm to 2:30pm on Power 99, is hosted by Catherine Perry Harris. (PR)

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Lawyer plans petition for Judiciary to get independent funding

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deletorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan attorney Charles P. Reyes Jr. is planning to launch in the next general

election a petition for a constitutional amendment to have the CNMI Judiciary get independent funding.

Reyes in an interview said the Judiciary should be inde-

pendently funded from anywhere between 5 and 8 percent or a reasonable amount so that every year they don't have to go to the Legislature to ask for money.

"It is inappropriate for the Judiciary to be doing that every year. They should not be beholden to the Legislature or the administration for their funding," he said.

The lawyer cited that the Office of the Public Auditor gets a mandated 1 percent from the budget, while the Public School System has a certain percentage.

Reyes said that in the last general election, the petition for independent funding for PSS was successfully achieved.

"We need to have that for the Judiciary too. Why? Because the Judiciary needs to be completely independent," he pointed out.

Reyes cited cases against the government like the one handled by attorney Michael Dotts in the Anthony Pellegrino lawsuit and others like land compensation, and medical malpractice lawsuits against the hospital, that still have not been paid and still being litigated.

"That's unacceptable," he said.

The Judiciary, the lawyer said, needs to be completely independent so they can make

completely lawful, objective decisions.

Reyes underscored the importance of having independent Judiciary so there is absolutely no political consideration and there is no financial consideration.

He said there should be a petition just like what former representative Tina Sablan did for the Open Government Act.

Reyes said court translators and lawyers appointed as counsels for indigent clients need to get paid on timely basis at a reasonable rate.

He said every year, the Judiciary has to worry about their funding.

"They need to have enough funding to take care of Rota and Tinian and to take care of the lawyers that they appoint, to take care of translators and investigators. All of them are not getting paid fairly and on timely basis because of lack of resources," Reyes added.



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7:00 p.m.	Korean Community
7:45 p.m.	Filipino Community
8:00 p.m.	Chuukese Community
8:15 p.m.	Fashion Show
9:00 p.m.	Tahiti/Marquesas/Cook Is. Community
9:15 p.m.	Fiji/Tonga/Samoa Community
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ZONING HEARING

JON PEREZ

Rep Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), left, gives his comments during the deliberation for House Local Bill 19-53, which aims to rezone certain areas in San Roque, in Tuesday's session of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation at the House Chamber of the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building on Capitol Hill.

Coast Guard assists in patient transport due to heavy weather affecting Maui

HONOLULU, Hawaii— The U.S. Coast Guard safely transported a pediatric patient to awaiting EMS at Maalaea Harbor, Tuesday.

The patient is reportedly in stable condition.

Watchstanders at Sector Honolulu Command Center received a request from Maui EMS for a patient transfer at 8 p.m., Tuesday. An emergency vehicle from Maui EMS was actively transporting a pediatric patient when the vehicle was halted due to poor road conditions resulting from heavy rain and flooding.

A 45-foot Response Boat-Medium crew from Coast Guard Station Maui diverted from a nearby training mission and met the emergency vehicle at Lahaina Harbor where is to be able to respond with a high level of proficiency in any situation. They were able to rely on that training during this emergency evolution and help someone in need." (PR)

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EDITORIAL

9/11 and the Saudi question: Let the victims' families proceed

House Republicans and Democrats don't agree on much. But they did come together on Sept. 9 to back legislation that would allow the families of people killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the U.S. to sue Saudi Arabia for whatever role, if any, Saudi officials might have had in the plot.

The legislation now goes to President Barack Obama. The White House on Monday said what it has been saying for months — that Obama will veto the bill. If he does, then Congress should override him. There are more than enough votes in both chambers.

The question of possible Saudi involvement in the 9/11 attacks at some official level has never been fully put to rest. A redacted 28-page document from a 2002 congressional inquiry into the attacks was finally made public last July. It revealed contacts between Saudi officials and the 9/11 hijackers, but was by no means a smoking gun.

The September 11 Commission's report, released in 2004, concluded that there was no evidence that the Saudi government or any senior Saudi officials were involved in the 9/11 attacks. Still, members of that commission have said their report did not rule out involvement by lower ranking Saudi officials. And for years, families of victims of the 9/11 attacks have claimed that the Saudis financially support terrorism. Those families filed lawsuits that attempt to hold the Saudi government liable.

Their attempts have failed, however, because of a 1976 law that grants foreign governments immunity from litigation in U.S. courts. The new law Congress has passed, the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, or JASTA, negates that immunity for foreign governments that have been found culpable for terrorism that kills U.S. citizens on American soil. The law leaves it up to the courts to rule on allegations of a foreign government's involvement in terrorist attacks committed in the U.S.

New York Democratic lawmaker Chuck Schumer, one of the bill's sponsors, says if the Saudis weren't involved in the 9/11 attacks, "they have nothing to fear about going to court." We think Schumer's right.

Fifteen years after that terrible day, we still do not know everything that we need to know about the attacks, and the meetings and planning that preceded them. It's crucial that victims' families have the means to resolve those questions — or at least to know they've proceeded as far as they possibly can.

The White House's principal argument against the new law is that other governments could use it to justify retaliatory lawsuits against the U.S. "It's not hard to imagine other countries using this law as an excuse to haul U.S. diplomats, U.S. service members or even U.S. companies into courts all around the world," said White House press secretary Josh Earnest.

The problem with that line of thinking is that the new law's parameters are sufficiently narrow: It's about foreign governments that facilitate terrorism. In any case, there are regimes all over the world that already manufacture legal cases as they

See 9/11 on Next Page

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Toying with fiscal posture

The Legislature has approved a measure allowing agencies of the NMI government to take out loan, e.g., bond flotation on their own. While the intent is good it boggles the mind whether the legislature reviewed the record of the local government on bond flotation and its cumulative and pending deficit spending.

The fact that it bankrupted the old retirement program by introducing a competing program reflects poor fiscal management. It still owes some \$779 million in unfunded liability. Then there are other debts it could hardly pay on time, if at all, e.g., \$36 million to CUC, a couple more millions in CUC-CDA loan, among others. Moreover, CUC needs \$321 million to fix the water leaks here. Did anybody bother to find out the bond rating of the NMI after this financial miscalculation?

It's good if we could swing it but we're dealing with repaying the corpus of the loan plus interest. I'm quite certain too that given our less than sterling fiscal posture the loaning institution would likely require our securing an insurance on the loan doubled down by another set of interests. All in all we'd be paying four different obligations!

This plan confirms the volatility of our fiscal posture, right?

'We the people' matter!

With the absence of leadership here, I often wonder what's the future of our children amidst the deepening economic depression and deterioration in the quality of life NMI-wide.

Negligence becomes even more pronounced; it now includes the definite departure of our educated kids who can't find meaningful jobs right here at home. And we spend millions of dollars annually educating them?

The lack of opportunities started since eight to 10 years ago. It consistently deepens by the day as more of our returning scholars head right back to Guam, Hawaii, and the U.S. mainland where opportunities abound. This was preceded by the evacuation of more than 3,000 families.

This is a design by politicians who thought we didn't know any better. They simply ignored the wellbeing of our people by forcing abject poverty then present "casino" as the savior.

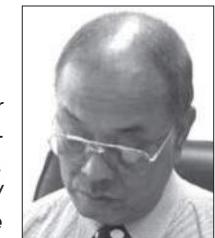
The evil geniuses have succeeded with their silent agenda. Though they chiseled their signature in the introduction of casino here, something else has equally sprouted that each advocate must embrace: serious long-term illnesses, divine curse and slow death!

That nothing has improved family pocketbooks, hardship, like a contagious virus, has spread NMI-wide. It is now a mouthwash

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



found in the frustrated expressions of "we the people." The net effect of the heartfelt village sentiment has begun the train of change moving well into 2018!

It has also turned the casino law highly vulnerable. It could be amended or completely abolished in a plebiscite of "we the people." People are ready to take back their government!

Time for meditation

My day begins with meditation. It's the humble course to understanding lasting happiness and the path that leads to it.

Politicians and business leaders are invited to mindfulness sessions at the World Economic Forum in Davos. Accepting the humbling aspect of meditation breeds compassionate CEOs and employees who contribute to the wellbeing of everyone.

"Steve Jobs, challenge the unsatisfying organizational status quo around him and become the innovative thinker he is famous for, and how it led others to follow him and fulfill their professional aspirations, according to an article by Didier Andre Guillot a specially appointed associate professor at Fukui Prefectural University.

Approaching powerful and highly instrumental meditation ought to work here. It would reawaken the Christianity in each of the people on imperial Capital Hill so they begin resetting their true north to do what's right by doing them right! If this fails, take them to Banzai Cliff and watch them take voluntary dives into oblivion!

"Meditation is taught at Harvard Business School. Meditation groups are a common sight at Google Inc.'s campus and on the premises of other leading technology firms.

Reality in job search

It's very sad hearing a story recounted how several of our re-

See TOYING on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published.

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Talking with tourists

I don't yet have August's visitor statistics for the CNMI, but, so far, it looks like China is on track to edge out South Korea as the largest source of Commonwealth visitors for the year. Globally, the Chinese are said to have claimed the position of the world's top tourism spenders back in 2012. On this note, perhaps the only thing that exceeds the breadth of the opportunities is the height of the communications barrier.

Some readers of this column are, therefore, going to be putting their noses in Chinese textbooks. If not now, then later. I've been flailing around with Mandarin Chinese studies for a few years now. Today I'll pass on a few more observations on the topic. As always, my observations are tendered with the disclaimer that I am an utterly unsuccessful student of Chinese. Commisseration, I can provide. Expertise, I cannot.

Fortunately, some experts have been posting very useful Chinese lessons on YouTube. I've mentioned some of these resources before. I'm on the case again because I recently found a good collection of basic lessons. These come courtesy of a teacher who posts as "Yi Zhao." I surmise that Zhao is the surname, so I'll call her Teacher Zhao.

Teacher Zhao's videos come in two varieties. Most of them are a voiced lesson combined with simple text and other unostentatious graphics. I think of these as "standard" lessons. Some other lessons, by contrast, are videos of her walking around Shanghai doing various things, such as buying tea or using an ATM; I have not yet given these much attention. It's the standard lessons that I'm going to comment on. And my comment is that many of these videos are excellent. They are focused, effective,

and relevant.

And they're also sorely needed. Although, at the basic level, I don't think Chinese grammar is all that difficult, it does have some idiosyncrasies that merit good explanation. However, typical textbook fare and classroom lectures often give these points shoddy treatment. These points can be grasped in five minutes if they're explained the right way, and I've found that it's often someone on YouTube who knows how to do the explaining.

In Teacher Zhao's case, some of these videos are only a few minutes long, but they explain things that probably took me hours to puzzle out back when I was just getting started.

Although I've used YouTube as an occasional supplement for grammar review, I'm sure that other people have inverted the equation and have figured out how to use it as a primary means of learning. Either way, I think that many of us will only figure out the best path in retrospect. But even that gets murky when you consider that the only path that really matters is the one your feet are on; all the others are mere abstractions.

Some YouTube videos have a more comprehensive scope than the short grammar videos I've been looking at. For example, the "HSK Academy" has posted some vocabulary reviews. These reviews rapidly move through the words on several levels of the Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) exams. The HSK is a test of Chinese proficiency for foreigners. There's an entire industry devoted to HSK preparation. This ranges from books, to on-line tutor sessions, to live-in schools.

I've mentioned the two YouTube resources I wanted to bring to your attention today. I've still got the space to circle back to

By ED STEPHENS JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



the grammar thing and mention a book that is proving to be an indispensable tool. It's called *Basic Patterns of Chinese Grammar*, and it's written by Qin Xue Herzberg and Larry Herzberg. It lists for \$12.95. This book is clear, succinct, and practical.

Although Larry Herzberg is a professor of Chinese, he doesn't hide behind pompous linguistic jargon. You don't have to know any esoteric grammatical terms to use the book. That's good for me, since I only know three grammatical terms, and I'm not even sure about two of them. Anyway, this is one book about Chinese that is written in plain English.

As I survey the pile of Chinese materials that I've amassed over the years, I can see the 80/20 rule in action. In other words, 20 percent of my materials have provided 80 percent of my progress, although that progress has been scant, I'll admit.

When it comes to Chinese, though, a little progress is a lot better than no progress at all. I'm seeing more and more examples where this difference is a critical one in the business realm. Let's not forget that tourism is very much a business; hey, I'm all in favor of that, since it has often rescued me from having to take boring jobs in the "real world." I've been in tourism, and I've been out of tourism, and, baby, tourism is better.

The ugly truth: Clinton vs Obama

'You've got mail'

No, it's not about Clinton vs Trump, and it's not about elections. It's about a set of leaked e-mails from Colin Powell that show us (the secret of Polichinelle!) Hillary's disdain for her boss, the future former U.S. president, Barack Obama. In a series of e-mail messages <https://www.yahoo.com/finance/news/op-ed-ouch-powell-emails-150723886.html> between Colin Powell and Jeffrey Leeds, his business partner and a top Democratic party donor, there are mentions about Clinton's "hate" about the president, who is called "that man" and, on the other hand, about the Obama team not minding too much if Clinton were to lose the presidential elections.

'Universal soldier'

Back in 2008, it was notorious the fact that Obama's party nomination came as a thing hard to swallow for Hillary, who saw herself at the time (and keeps seeing herself now, too) as the Democratic Party's anointed one.

These new revelations cannot come in a more devastating moment for Clinton, who has been fighting recently with:

- The government, through the FBI, for the investigation of her personal server;
- The American people, half of which she considers "deplorable," who "need understanding and empathy;" and

■ Her own self, through her health issues (pneumonia, concussions, blood clots, vision problems, fainting, etc., etc.).

The truth of the matter is that Hillary considers the people around her being ungrateful, since they have deprived her of things she has been entitled to. This, for a woman who has spent 32 years (a whole generation) on the corridors of power, without leaving much behind: 20 years as a First Lady (12 years for Arkansas and eight for the US), eight years as a U.S. senator, and four years as a U.S. Secretary of State.

All you need is hate, hate is all you need

For starters, she hates her husband, Bill Clinton, for cheating on her and putting her on the shameful position of defending herself before the American people with the "vast right-wing conspiracy" gimmick (the code name for Bill's affairs).

She hates the U.S. government for putting her in the disgraceful position of being almost criminally charged for her private e-mail server.

She hates president Obama (practically, an unknown before 2008) for putting her in the inconvenient position of serving under his administration and not vice versa (a necessary sacrifice to preserve her public presence and avoid her being, otherwise,

billion in Treasury securities and other U.S. assets if JASTA becomes law. That's their right, though experts have said it would hurt their economy more than it would hurt ours.

Also important to remember: This measure isn't just about the 9/11 attacks and Saudi Arabia. It applies to any future terrorist attack on U.S. soil in which there are questions raised about a foreign government's role in that attack. Terrorism isn't going away, and neither are countries that, to varying degrees, empower terrorists.

The obvious attempt to derail her employment here was frustrating. She picked up her mom and headed to jet ways where she could continue working for a huge hotel and support herself. With a good education and work credentials she'd make it anywhere except home. This one-upmanship BS has got to end and the Department of Labor needs to tidy up and go after HR people who use it against our returning scholars!

Fangs of truth!

Republican Rep. Antonio P. Sablan is rumored to openly discourage folks from believing what's published of his HB 19-195. It's a bill that would repeal a provision on Public Law 18-43 that prevents relatives of members of the 18th CNMI Legislature

By TIBERIU DIANU

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Tiberiu Dianu is a scholar and author of several books and articles in law and post-communist societies. He currently lives in Washington, D.C., where he works for various government and private agencies.



doomed for oblivion after losing her party's nomination). And let's not forget her husband's remarks to Ted Kennedy in the 2008 elections, by describing his views about Obama this way: "A few years ago, this guy would have been carrying our bags."

She hates her Democratic Party for its inaptitude (see Debbie Wasserman Schultz's leaked e-mails) that put her in the humiliating position of having to fight almost until the end with a socialist septuagenarian (Bernie Sanders), who was not even a party member until 2015.

And, with all her hate against the people in her intimate circles, one is worried about her disdain for Donald Trump? You got to be kidding! The woman hates E-VERY-BO-DY around her. Maybe with the exception of Chelsea. And Huma Abedin.

Make no mistake, Saudi Arabia is a vital U.S. ally. It's an energy giant, and it's an important counterpoint to the Iranian regime's intent to exert a stranglehold on the Middle East. But we cannot afford to look the other way when it comes to culpability for terrorism — if there's compelling evidence of a connection. The new law isn't an indictment of Saudi Arabia or any other country. It's merely a means to get at the truth.

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9/11

From Page 14

see fit. It's a reality that the U.S. deals with right now, and would continue to face — with or without this law.

The Saudi government has denied any connection with the 9/11 attacks, and points to the September 11 Commission's findings as proof of that. The Saudis also threaten to sell off \$750

TOYING

From Page 14

turning scholars who were given discouraging run-around when submitting applications for jobs here.

Firstly, the person conducting the interview has credentials far inferior than the applicant before him or her. Obviously, the applicant has a master's in business administration and manages two sections of a world brand hotel for several years in the state where she graduated from a university. Her only goal is to help her mom as the latter heads into her golden years.

from being employed by a casino on Saipan.

How do you change the narrative of straight news stories that came from your HB 19-195? That it is riddled with impropriety prompted public reactions against it, true? It isn't a personal concoction either. Didn't the Office of the Public Auditor warn that it would be in violation of the Open Government Act? Surprisingly, even the AG said so, simultaneously.

I pointed out the likely violation of the OGA a week or so before OPA/AG aired their views. The views of the latter were simple confirmation of my assertion full-square! It's about the dire need to sustaining integrity in building strong governance, a scarce item these days among politicos. In brief, you can't have your cake and eat it too!

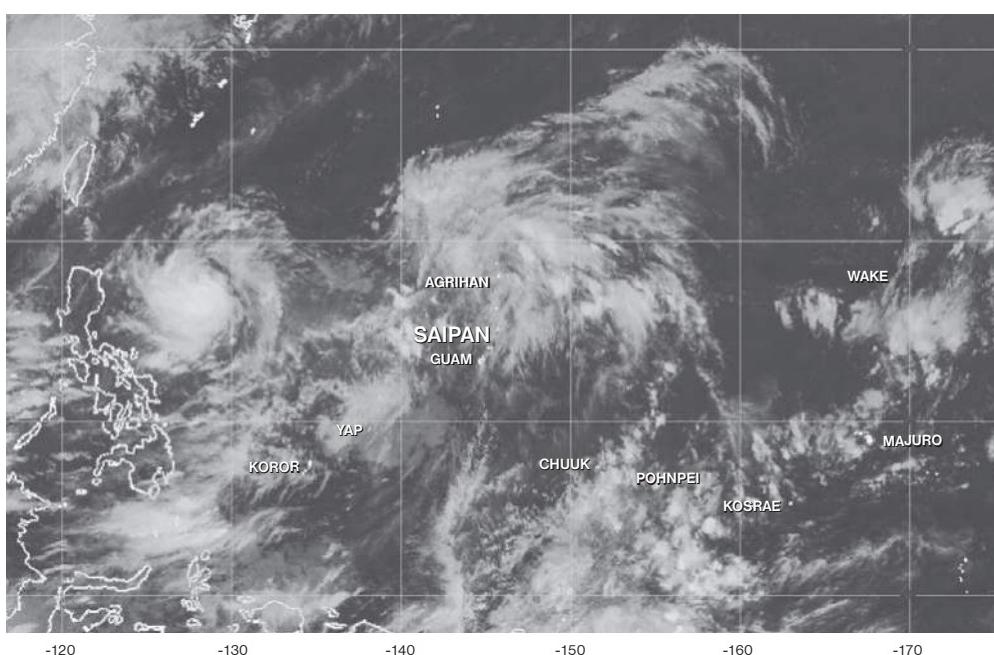
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 90°	▼ 79°	▲ 90°	▼ 79°	▲ 89°	▼ 79°	▲ 89°	▼ 79°
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YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:16 AM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough associated with tropical disturbance is just west of Guam this morning. Scattered showers remain over Tinian and Saipan, with only isolated showers over Guam and Rota. These showers will produce periods of heavy rainfall that will cause minor flooding in urban areas and areas of poor drainage through around 7:45 am. Showers and thunderstorms will gradually diminish over Tinian and Saipan through the morning, becoming isolated by noon. A much drier pattern is then expected to continue through the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Morning clouds	82 / 90 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	80 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	79 / 87 °F
Pohnpei	Morning clouds	76 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	83 / 88 °F
Majuro	Decreasing cloudiness	83 / 88 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY

1:04 AM	LOW TIDE	0.68 Feet
6:38 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.98 Feet
1:21 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.04 Feet
7:39 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.01 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET

Today	6:06 AM	6:18 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:16 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET

Today	5:56 PM	5:13 AM
Saturday	6:44 PM	6:12 AM
Sunday	7:33 PM	7:11 AM
Monday	8:23 PM	8:11 AM
Tuesday	9:215 PM	9:12 AM

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/18							

What is PAVA?

By JIMMY SABLAR
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Jimmy Sablan is a program manager for the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc.

On Oct. 29, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law a piece of federal legislation now known as the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 which subsequently created a little known grant program called the Protection & Advocacy for Voter Access (PAVA) given to all states and territories except for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Intended to provide technical and advocacy support on behalf of individuals with disabilities at federal polling places, PAVA funding would not be disbursed to the CNMI due to the fact that we did not have a federal election at the time of its inception. It wasn't until 2008 when the first federal election was held locally for our very first non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress, Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan.

At present our office, the Northern Marianas Protection

& Advocacy Systems, Inc. also known as NMPASI, is working with both the CNMI Congressional office and the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) in hopes of identifying a simple legislative fix at the federal level to secure the PAVA grant for the CNMI. Sadly and as affirmed by Kilili's legislative director, "Nothing is ever simple or easy with fixing federal legislation...even changing a comma can sometimes be challenging." Still, we hold out hope that Kilili with technical support from NDRN can find a way to make it happen. As it stands, the legislative fix we seek would translate to a modest \$35,000 per year for which NMPASI, as the state-designated agency for protection and advocacy services on behalf of individuals with disabilities, would be eligible to apply and administer for the CNMI.

What does PAVA do?

Basically PAVA requires states and territories to ensure access to voting for people with disabilities by providing the following:

- Accessible polling places;
- Accessible ballots;

- Accessible voting equipment;
- Independence and privacy while voting;
- Protection and advocacy systems to ensure HAVA compliance; and
- Assistance to people with disabilities at voting polls

NMPASI, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Election Commission, would further provide the following for people with disabilities to better access their right to vote:

- Information on HAVA legislation
- Resources on current election laws
- Information on how to register to vote
- Information on how to vote
- Information on eligibility requirements for voting
- Training and education on HAVA and election laws
- Advocacy to implement HAVA and other voting rights

What are my rights as a voter with a disability?

As a voter with a disability, you are entitled to the following:

- You have the right to vote
- You have the right to access your local polling place

See PAVA on Page 18



PROUD DAD

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero fixes the uniform of his son, Job Jacob Guerrero, who is among the two police officers who joined the oath-taking and graduation ceremonies for the 21 new graduates from the Department of Corrections Sixth Cycle Corrections Academy held last Tuesday at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Confessions of a news hound

By RUSS MASON
Special to the Saipan Tribune



For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, Alternative & Complementary Therapies. His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.

and high fructose corn syrup are, they are still better than aspartame.

The artificial sweeteners are considered to be neurotoxins—that is, they adversely affect your brain and ability to think well or clearly. As a result I have cautioned readers to not drink diet beverages or anything with artificial sweeteners. As unhealthy as sugar

Here's the controversy: I recently read an article by a physician, Dr. Betty Martini, who says a couple of very interesting things. What she says is only speculation and cannot be verified. But what she wrote makes sense.

The doctor believes that

Mrs. Clinton's mental problems may have been exacerbated from many years of drinking Diet Coke, which contains aspartame. The doctor also points to Michael J. Fox, who developed Parkinson's disease at the age of 30.

Parkinson's is generally believed to be "an old person's disease" so it was strange that

See CONFESSIONS on Page 18



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PAVA*From Page 17*

- You have the right to cast a secret ballot
- You have the right to request assistance with marking and casting your ballot
- You have the right to cast an absentee ballot

What about voters with cognitive impairment?

In the CNMI, only the court may decide that an individual is not competent to vote. Persons assisting voters may not in any way try to influence the voter's choices. Persons assisting voters must not

mark the ballot if the voter cannot communicate his or her intent.

The general election for the CNMI is happening this November and despite the absence of PAVA, folks with special needs are still entitled to the above stated rights under the Help America Vote Act of 2002. If you have any questions regarding these rights, please do not hesitate to contact our Commonwealth Election Commission Office directly @ 664-VOTE (8683) or visit their website at www.votecnmi.gov.mp, and/or NMPASI @ (670) 235-7273/4 or visit our website at nmpasi.org.

CONFESIONS*From Page 17*

Mr. Fox would develop debilitating symptoms at such a young age.

But then the doctor reported that Mr. Fox was not only a spokesman for Diet Pepsi, but that he drank a lot of it over the years. According to the doctor, Mr. Fox was "addicted" to Diet Pepsi.

From Dr. Martini: <http://www.rense.com/general96/parkinsonsdietcoke.htm>

"The structural damage in the basal areas of the brain where Parkinson Disease structural damage occurs

from the dicarboxylic amino acid neuroexcitotoxins is a problem long recognized. So aspartic acid even in and by itself is a recognized source of the damage to the basal ganglia where Parkinson's Disease degeneration occurs. As in the case with methyl alcohol the molecular structure of the aspartame molecule probably makes the aspartic acid damage from aspartame 5,000 times more potent than from free aspartic acid on a mg. per mg. basis. The brain with loss of neural tissue to produce the dopamine, a neurotransmitter necessary to let the brain circuitry function normally is no longer

producing dopamine in sufficient amounts in these structures. The metabolic impact of the phenylalanine isolate from aspartame is to remarkably decrease dopamine production thus making Parkinson symptoms much worse."

Bottom line: don't consume anything artificially sweetened. It's not worth it.

Another controversial topic

A favorite source for interesting topics is a guy named Jeff Rense. He has a website, rense.com, and a YouTube channel. To call his stories controversial is an understatement. Still, he sometimes has pretty convincing evidence – often in the form of photographs.

When SpaceX (a rocket ship) blew up on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral a week or so ago, it was widely covered in the mainstream news.

It was to have been a joint venture from Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook) and the Israeli government—some kind of powerful, new, secret satellite.

According to Rense's report, the rocket was zapped by a UFO; and there were pictures of a sphere in the sky, going back and forth, before and after the rocket exploded.

Is this true? Maybe so. I don't believe that Rense would photoshop (or otherwise insert) a photo of a sphere into his report. But it's extremely interesting if true, because it suggests that an alien entity did NOT want this satellite successfully launched.

Speaking of satellites...

Another favorite news source is a British MP named Simon Parkes. In addition to a web site, he also has a YouTube channel and always has fascinating things to say.

One thing he revealed in a video is that many satellites (from the U.S., Russia, China, and other countries) are actually weapons platforms—intentionally mislabeled as "communications" satellites.

Mr. Parkes goes on to explain that these weapons platforms have three different kinds of sophisticated weaponry: nukes, plasma weapons, and something called a "kinetic tungsten missile."

Is he correct in his assessment? He certainly sounds sincere and matter-of-fact about it.

The bottom line is pretty simple: there are things we are not supposed to know, and that the world is full of secrets.

My new hero

One recent commentator expressed the opinion that I "had an ax to grind" against

the Clintons.

My response was that I have an ax to grind against anyone who lies to the FBI, to a Congressional committee and to the American people.

It was recently disclosed that Secretary of State, John Kerry, has funneled millions into his daughter's non-profit organization. That is simply the most recent outrage; but we've had a long history of shady politicians. Abuse of power is nothing new in the USA nor any other country. People in power get away with plenty.

My new hero is a Republican congressman from South Carolina. His name is Harold "Trey" Gowdy.

In a variety of congressional hearings, Mr. Gowdy has made Hillary Clinton, FBI director James Comey, IRS commissioner John Koskinen, and others, sweat bullets as they testified before him.

Trey Gowdy is a bulldog who dares to question powerful, self-impressed politicians. He is unrelenting and will not put up with nonsense from any witness. He's fantastic, and it makes my heart leap with joy every time he's got a shifty weasel on the hotseat. As you probably know, our federal government is full of shifty weasels.

One rumor (unconfirmed) is that if Donald Trump wins the presidency in November, he will appoint Mr. Gowdy as Attorney General. Wouldn't that be great?

Between Mr. Trump and Mr. Gowdy, they would clear out the rats' nest of U.S. politics and send the corrupt politicians to the slammer.

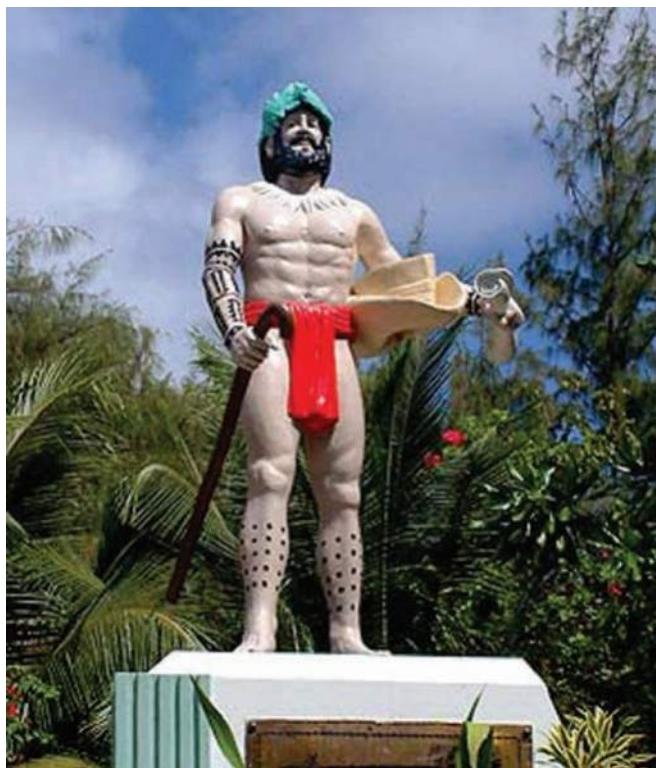
However, this will probably never happen, because those in power will not allow it. Many want Trump dead; or, if he wins the election, something else will happen (such as a global financial reset) and Obama will remain in power indefinitely.

Unfortunately, the shifty weasels are in power, and it looks like we're stuck with them for the foreseeable future. But you never know: maybe the good guys will actually prevail in November and beyond. Man I hope so.



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Managaha to host Chief Aghurubw Day celebration anew



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Chief Aghurubw memorial on Managaha Islands. The 46th Annual Commemoration Celebration of Chief Aghurubw will be held tomorrow on the island just off Saipan's western coast.

Last year's Typhoon Soudelor put a halt to what would have been the 45th commemoration anniversary honoring Chief Aghurubw. This year's 46th Annual Commemoration Celebration of Chief Aghurubw will proceed with the event scheduled to be held on Managaha (Ghalaghah) Island tomorrow, Sept. 17.

Chief Aghurubw, the legendary Carolinian chief and navigator, is revered by the Carolinians as a leader who set sail from Satawal in the Western Caroline Islands over 200 years ago, to seek refuge for his people when a major typhoon devastated their islands.

On Sept. 18, 1969, the first

monument was completed in his memory on Managaha (Ghalaghah) Island, heralding the first anniversary of Chief Aghurubw's commemoration. His statue, which stands today on Managaha, commemorates his achievements and leadership to assure of his people's safety and welfare. The island is known to be the famous chief's burial ground and lends to the island's historical significance. As the chief's burial site, it is considered as sacred grounds by the Carolinians.

Oral and written history passed through generations spoke of how in 1815, Chief Aghurubw braved uncertain-

ties ahead to relocate his people, many of whom faced starvation through losses suffered from the typhoon. He navigated the voyage to the Marianas and paid a visit to then Spanish Governor Jose Medinilla in Guam and asked permission for the resettlement.

Governor Medinilla granted official approval and bestowed Chief Aghurubw with a legal certificate, a cane, and a tall, black hat, the traditional symbols of authority. The official approval from Governor Medinilla distinguished him as a paramount chief from other

clan chiefs who may have sailed through similar routes to safety.

The 46th Anniversary of Chief Aghurubw is one of the main activities scheduled for September as Cultural Heritage Month and highlights this year's celebration of the 200 Years of Carolinian resettlement in the Marianas. It is organized by members of the Chief Aghurubw Foundation, Inc. in coordination with the Carolinian Affairs Office and the Refaluwasch Advisory Council. The annual tribute to Chief Aghurubw will include

boat trips to and from Managaha, sailing of traditional canoes, a commemoration mass, official remarks, lunch, and traditional performances.

Following are the schedules for boat transfers to and from Managaha, courtesy of *Jambalaya* by Saipan Sea Ventures and MV *Senerita* by Pacific Subsea Inc. and Tasi Tours Inc.:

Jambalaya (Saipan Sea Ventures)

- Departing from Outer Cove, Marina 8am and 10am

- Departing from Managa-

ha to Outer Cove, Marina 3pm and 4pm

MV Senerita (Pacific Subsea Inc.)

- Departing from Lower Base (behind CUC plant) 8:30am

- Departing from Managa- ha to Lower Base 4pm

The general public is invited to attend the commemoration event. For more details and schedule of events, please call 287-0007 or 285-2552 or log in to the Chief Aghurubw Foundation Facebook Page. (PR)

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Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.

4-7 YEARS

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat's manufacturer.

Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat but still in the back seat.

8-12 YEARS

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly, the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face.

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- In 2012, among children under the age of 5 in cars, an estimated 284 lives were saved by child restraints.
- In 2012, over one-third (37%) of children killed in car crashes were not in car seats, booster seats or seat belts.

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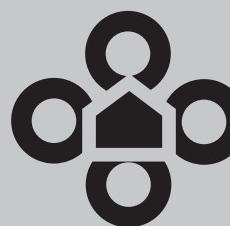
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DPS sets seatbelt checkpoints on Saipan, Tinian

The Department of Public Safety would like to inform the general public that the DPS Traffic Section will be conducting occupant protection and child restraint checkpoints on Saipan and Tinian on the dates and times listed below:

SAIPAN

■ Sept. 16, 2016: First checkpoint will be along Beach Road, Garapan to Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa from 7am to 9am. Second checkpoint will be along Chalan Pale Arnold, Garapan to Chalan Pale Arnold, Chalan Lau Lau from 10am to 12pm.

■ Sept. 19, 2016: First checkpoint will be at the Tinian center on the southbound lane on Broadway Road from 11am to 12:15pm. Second checkpoint will be by the Youth Center on the northbound lane of Broadway Road from 4pm to 5:15pm.

■ Sept. 20, 2016: First checkpoint will be by the baseball field on the eastbound lane of Route 202 from 11am to 12:15pm. Second checkpoint will be by Tinian Hotel on the northbound lane on Broadway Road from 4pm to 5:15pm.

■ Sept. 21, 2016: First checkpoint will be along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, San Jose to Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, Dan Dan from 1pm to 3pm. Second checkpoint will be Chalan Pale Arnold, Puerto Rico to Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai from 4pm to 6pm.

■ Sept. 23, 2016: First checkpoint will be along Chalan Monsignor Martinez, As Lito from 7pm to 9pm. Second checkpoint will be along Beach Road, Chalan Piao to Beach Road, San Jose from 10pm to 12am.

TINIAN

■ Sept. 19, 2016: First checkpoint will be at the Tinian center on the southbound lane on Broadway Road from 11am to 12:15pm. Second checkpoint will be by the Youth Center on the northbound lane of Broadway Road from 4pm to 5:15pm.

■ Sept. 20, 2016: First checkpoint will be by the baseball field on the eastbound lane of Route 202 from 11am to 12:15pm. Second checkpoint will be by Tinian Hotel on the northbound lane on Broadway Road from 4pm to 5:15pm.

■ Sept. 21, 2016: First checkpoint will be by the Youth Center on the southbound lane on Broadway Road from 11 am to 12:15pm. The second checkpoint will be by the baseball field on the east-

bound lane on Route 202 from 4pm to 5:15pm.

■ Sept. 22, 2016: The first checkpoint will be across Turnkey Housing, southbound lane on Broadway Road from 11am to 12:15pm. The second checkpoint will be across the Youth Center on the northbound lane of Broadway Road from 4pm to 5:15pm.

Each checkpoint will be operated for 1 hour and 15 minutes or 75 minutes. The

checkpoint will be cancelled when it rains.

For more information about the checkpoints on Saipan, please contact Sgt. Anthony Macaranas (670) 483-5818.

For more information about the checkpoints on Tinian, please contact Sgt. Wally Villagomez at 433-9222 or 433-2041. (PR)

ZIKA UPDATE

JON PEREZ

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. resident epidemiologist Paul White, MSc, PhD, gives an update to members of various government agencies on Zika and other arboviral diseases like dengue and chikungunya last Wednesday at the Napu Room of the Pacific Islands Club-Saipan.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

9 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged nine Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites DPW Channel Bridge, Puerto Rico Dump, Smiling Cove Marina, American Memorial Park, Da-Ichi Drainage, Hafa Adai Hotel, Garapan Fishing Dock,

CK Dist#4 Lally 4 Beach, and San Antonio Beach.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday.

For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (PR)

Mobile consular outreach on Saipan postponed

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam has postponed until further notice its scheduled mobile consular outreach for September 2016 due to non-availability of travel funds.

The new schedule for mobile consular outreach on

Saipan will be announced and posted on the Consulate General's website and Facebook page. (PR)

AMP launches 2016 Every Kid in a Park program

American Memorial Park encourages all fourth graders to visit the park this year as part of the Every Kid in a Park program.

The Every Kid in a Park program is an Administration-

wide effort between the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Army, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The program continues each year with the then-current group of fourth graders. After 12 years, every school-age child in America will have had an opportunity to visit their public land and waters for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation's shared natural and cultural heritage.

For more information, please visit www.everykidinapark.gov and follow the program on Twitter @everykidinapark, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. (PR)

NMC test vouchers for A+ and N+ certification available

The Northern Marianas College-Community Development Institute (CDI) has announced that test vouchers are available for those individuals who had attended the College's IT Bootcamp conducted earlier this summer.

The vouchers, which are for the A+ and N+ certification tests, will be emailed to those who attended the IT Bootcamp; the vouchers can also be obtained by calling the CDI office at 237-6802. The College also announced that the Pearson Vue testing center will be ready to receive appointments for test takers in late September. Please call 670-237-6802 for further questions. (PR)

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Obama visits far-flung Midway Atoll in conservation push

MIDWAY ATOLL, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (AP)—Halfway between East and West, President Barack Obama traveled Thursday to one of the most remote corners of the Pacific Ocean to amplify his call for global action on environmental protection.

Few Americans have ever visited Midway Atoll, a far-flung speck of coral reef with black-footed albatrosses and spinner dolphins—and that's exactly Obama's point. As he nears the end of his presidency, he has sought to use the wonder of natural treasures to instill his pleas for climate action and conservation with a sense of real-life urgency.

Air Force One landed on an airstrip that gained prominence half a century ago, when the Battle of Midway became a turning point in World War II. Obama's first stop was the small visitor center where U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials briefed him on Midway's wildlife refuge. During his afternoon tour, the president hoped to go snorkeling if weather permitted, the White House said.

In his latest push on conservation, Obama is expanding the Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument, which includes Midway, to four times its current size. Speaking to leaders of Pacific island nations ahead of his trip, Obama said that 7,000 species live in the waters, and 1 in 4 are found nowhere else in the world.

"Ancient islanders believed it contained the boundary between this life and the next," Obama said. "This is a hallowed site, and it deserves to be treated that way. And from now on, it will be preserved for future generations."

Ahead of Obama's visit, the White House announced modest new steps to help Pacific

island countries prepare for climate change, including \$9 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development for resilience programs in places like Fiji, Kiribati and Papua New Guinea.

The marine monument, created in 2006 by President George W. Bush, will grow to 582,578 square miles under Obama's expansion, an area more than twice the size of Texas. The world's largest, the monument reflects Obama's strategy of using his executive powers to put lands and waters off-limits to development, despite concerns from critics who argue his heavy-handed approach comes at the expense of vulnerable local economies.

Obama's decision to expand the monument was the subject of fierce debate within Hawaii, with both sides invoking Native Hawaiian culture to argue why it should or shouldn't be expanded. Supporters argued the larger monument was needed to protect a place considered sacred by Native Hawaiians by making it off-limits to commercial fishing and recreational activities. But opponents argued the region is heavily dependent on fishing and can't afford the hit, adding that a federal ban would infringe on the traditions that ancient Hawaiians used to protect natural resources.

The unusual visit to Midway, a place where just a few dozen people live, comes as Obama uses his final months in office to try to galvanize

strident advocates of the sweeping global emissions-cutting deal struck in Paris last year. Officials in both countries were hoping enough progress had been made that both the U.S. and China could announce they're formally joining that agreement during Obama's visit.

"When it comes to climate change, there's a dire possibility of us getting off-course, and we can't allow that to happen," Obama said.

Midway derives its name from its location roughly halfway between Asia and North America, which made it a strategic place for trans-Atlantic flights to refuel. Though part of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, it's the only one not part of the State of Hawaii, instead grouped with the U.S. Minor Outlying Islands. Claimed by the U.S. in the middle of the 19th century, Midway became a hub of activity in the early 20th century amid efforts to lay a telegraph cable spanning the Pacific Ocean.

The U.S. began pouring military resources into Midway in the early 1940s, building a Naval Air Station equipped with runways, housing and medical facilities. The Japanese attack in 1942 was a pivotal moment in World War II, with the U.S. delivering a resounding defeat that degraded the Japanese Navy's capacity in the Pacific. In the 1990s, authority shifted from the U.S. Navy to conservation authorities to protect it as a wildlife reserve.

The wealth of biological diversity is nearly unparalleled: millions of birds, hundreds of species of fish and marine invertebrates, green sea turtles and Hawaiian monk seals. More albatrosses live on Midway than anywhere else in the world, and wildlife authorities have worked to prevent a number of endangered species from disappearing from the atoll.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Labor



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Call for Nominations

2016 GOVERNOR'S HUMANITIES AWARDS

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is accepting nominations for the 2016 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories:

- Research and Publication in the Humanities;
- Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices;
- Preservation of CNMI History; and
- Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).

A fifth category, **Lifetime Achievement**, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 14 October 2016.

Awards will be presented during the Governor's Humanities Awards which will be held in conjunction with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's 25th anniversary dinner/fundraiser at the Pacific Islands Club on Friday evening, 28 October 2016.

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785.



INVITATION FOR BID

MVA-IFB-16-2347: ACQUISITION OF RIDING MOWER FOR MVA TINIAN MVA-IFB-16-2348: ACQUISITION OF RIDING MOWER FOR MVA ROTA

Closing Date: **October 17, 2016**

Time: **10:00 a.m.**

Submit sealed proposals to:

Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher Concepcion
Managing Director



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 5.1 of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's (NMHC) Section 8 Administrative Plan, this is to inform the general public that NMHC is opening its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program's (HCV) waiting list and accordingly, will be accepting applications at the following places, dates, and hours:

NMHC Main Office	Monday, September 19, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Tuesday, September 20, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Wednesday, September 21, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Thursday, September 22, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Friday, September 23, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tinian Field Office	Monday, September 19, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Tuesday, September 20, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Wednesday, September 21, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Thursday, September 22, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Friday, September 23, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Rota Field Office	Monday, September 19, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Tuesday, September 20, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Wednesday, September 21, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Thursday, September 22, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	Friday, September 23, 2016	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Interested individuals may access the application at **any of our offices or online at www.nmhgov.net on the opening day mentioned above**. NMHC encourages families to download and print the application online then complete and submit it to our offices on the mentioned dates & times. NMHC Housing Specialists will review the applications and formally contact applicants to schedule an eligibility appointment.

Please be advised that the HCV's waiting list will close at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23, 2016. For more information, please contact NMHC at telephone numbers 234-6866 or 234-9446 (Saipan), 433-9213 (Tinian), or 532-9410 (Rota).

¹ NMHC shall issue a public notice advising the general public that applications for Section 8 are being accepted. The public notice shall contain the places, date(s), and time, application procedures and any limitations on who may apply and shall be published in a local newspaper of general circulation.



**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director**



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-023

ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION FOR WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A **Bid Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders.

The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **September 26, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Robert Malate, CUC Water & Wastewater Engineer, via email-robert.malate@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S Administrative Support Assistant, via email-marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAM
Purchasing Officer

Bordallo proposes regional solutions to labor challenges

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo raised Guam's continued H-2B visa challenges during a hearing of the House Committee on Natural Resources' Subcommit-

tee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs. Congresswoman Bordallo noted that the denials of H-2B visas have had adverse impacts on Guam's construction, health care, tourism industries

construction and health care industries, and noted her work to address the H-2B challenges through a provision she included in the House-passed FY17 defense authorization bill as well as with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. However she

also noted that for the long-term, Congress should work to develop proposals for a regional solution to address labor challenges in Guam and the CNMI. She will conduct a series of listening sessions

in October to hear from the broad range of stakeholders affected by the H-visa situation as well as discuss policy solutions moving forward.

"The continued H-2B visa denials have adversely affected Guam's construction, health care and tourism industries

NDAA and with USCIS to address this issue. However, this spate of H-visa denials has made it clear that there must be a better long-term solution so that all our industries have the workforce they need to keep our economy moving forward. What we need are regional solutions that address Guam and the CNMI's unique labor needs, and I will work with our local stakeholders to develop a long-term policy proposal to meet our specific workforce challenges. This proposal would also include support programs that cultivate local laborers and promote local workforce development.

I intend to meet with the broad range of stakeholders affected by the H-visa situation and ensure that we have a viable plan moving forward." (PR)

Fiji police investigate theft of Olympic gold medal

SUVA, Fiji (AP)—Fiji police are investigating the theft of an Olympic gold medal belonging to Fiji rugby sevens player Masivesi Dakuwaqa.

Dakuwaqa was a member of the team which won Fiji's

first-ever Olympic medal at the Rio de Janeiro Games. He told Fiji media the medal went missing last week from his home at Waqadra, near Nadi.

Namaka Police confirmed an official complaint of theft

has been filed and said investigations are continuing.

Dakuwaqa began the Olympic sevens tournament as Fiji's traveling reserve before replacing the injured Savenaca Rawaca.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY MARSHAL I

On the island of SAIPAN

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Director of Law Enforcement and Security in the Marshal Service Division on Saipan which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs enforcement and execution of court orders and service documents such as jury summons;
- Performs court security duties required for judicial proceedings, protection of justices, judges, court staff, clients, jurors, witnesses, and judicial facilities; assists in the operation of the court's security control monitoring systems;
- Conducts inspection and screening of all persons entering the courthouse and prohibits the entrance onto the court's premises of any items that are restricted or prohibited; provides the public with direction and information on all public services locations within the courthouse;
- Prepares written reports of service and non-service documents, incidents, and other reports as required;
- Performs prisoner handling while awaiting court hearings; escorts prisoners to courtrooms and to holding cells as directed;
- Has knowledge of and follows courtroom directives;
- Completes annually all required training including firearms; complies to all procedures relative to the proper use, maintenance, and security of government issued firearms; and
- Performs other duties on the courthouse premises as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Salary will be \$16,652 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

REACTION TO BILL 2 override:

'Calvo throws temper-tantrum when he doesn't get what he wants'

HAGĀTÑA, Guam—Guam Vice speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz issued the following statement in response to Gov. Eddie Calvo's reaction to the Bill 2 override.



"There he goes again. Every time Gov. Calvo doesn't get what he wants, he throws

a temper-tantrum, threatens furloughs, and says only he cares about the future of the people of Guam. Here is what he won't tell you: Bill 2's provisions will not go into effect until January of 2018. It has zero effect on Fiscal Year 2017's budget, and the retirement options we provide are entirely voluntary. If you like the DC plan, you can stay in it. If you don't want to pay one cent more than you already are, Bill 2 says you can keep it."

Cruz said the governor hated the Guam Legislature's plan but never offered one of his own.

"While he cursed the darkness, we worked for years to light a candle, and thousands of people now have a chance to retire with dignity because my colleagues acted so bravely. Please keep them in your thoughts and stand with them as they stood with you," he said.

In the end, the vice speaker said the only tragedy here is that an untold number of government retirees have already gone from the workforce to the welfare line because the government of Guam couldn't act fast enough.

"If Gov. Calvo wants to lecture anyone on fiscal responsibility, he should walk down the hall and ask the lieutenant governor why he signed a health insurance contract that will cost our taxpayers \$21.6 million this year. If the Governor can't find the answer to that question, I'm sure we can all point him in the right direction."

For more information, please call the Office of Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz at #477-2520/1. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950 HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE



PROMOTIONAL & OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the State Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School Personnel System shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Public Law 6 - 10, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disabilities or place of origin.

Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

POSITION/TITLE: COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: PSS 2016-175 OPENING DATE: September 13, 2016 CLOSING DATE: October 13, 2016

SALARY: PAYLEVEL/GRADE: UNGRADED Step(s): UNGRADED - \$85,000 - \$120,000 PA plus benefits

BENEFITS: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays).

LOCATION: PSS, Board of Education

The CNMI State Board of Education for the Public School System is seeking a student-centered and exemplary educational leader to serve as the Commissioner of Education.

The Commissioner of Education must be a dynamic, motivated educational leader with a collaborative management style and excellent communication skills and has demonstrated a commitment to education excellence. Additionally, the successful candidate will demonstrate knowledge and experience in applying and implementing current education research and practices and has a clear record of improving student achievement. The successful candidate must also demonstrate organizational knowledge and skills.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The Commissioner of Education is the Chief Executive Officer of the Public School system and is responsible for all of its operations, programs, and activities.
- The Commissioner is appointed by the Board of Education for a term of four (4) years and serves at the pleasure of the Board.
- This position shall serve as the primary Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of the Public School system (PSS). Duties include:
 - 1. Compliance with all applicable provisions of the CNMI Constitution, CNMI laws, Board of Education (Board) Policies, and PSS rules and regulations and implementation of Board policies;
 - 2. Make recommendations to the Board objectives, program plans, functional and personnel organizations, policies, budgets, and capital improvement plans;
 - 3. Develops and recommends for approval of the Board, a comprehensive accountability program for all aspects of PSS within ninety (90) days of employment as commissioner.
 - 4. Submits to the Board, the Governor, and the Commonwealth Legislature a detailed Annual PSS Education Report which discusses issues, challenges, instructional and academic progress and other subjects the Commissioner may deem necessary within thirty (30) days of the close of each school year.
 - 5. Develops and presents to the Board an annual School Performance Report Card for each school. This report will be presented concurrently with the Annual Report.
 - 6. Attends and participates in all Board and standing Committee meetings when requested to do so by the chair of that respective committee;
 - 7. Works with the Chairman of the Board in formulating the agenda for Board meetings;
 - 8. Plans and develops short and long range programs within the budgetary requirements, facility needs, and transportation requirements within ninety (90) days of initial employment and within thirty (30) days of the beginning of each subsequent school year.
 - 9. Develops and presents administrative and instructional programs based on empirical data.
 - 10. Provides leadership in the development of positive and creative personnel relationships; Provides leadership in the development of a healthy system-wide work climate through effective and efficient communication, empowerment, trust and supportive personnel relationships.
 - 11. Develops and maintains positive communication among employees and Board members.
 - 12. Reports to the Board, personnel plans and policies, including classification on recruitment, appointments, promotions, salary raises, and discipline.
 - 13. Notifies the Board when there is a need for reduction in force;
 - 14. Listens and responds expeditiously to employee's appeals;
 - 15. Provides for the equitable distribution of resources throughout PSS
 - 1. Has discretion to issue exemptions for students to attend classes in another attendance district;
 - 2. Reviews and approves all field trips;
 - 3. Grants exceptions to entrance age requirements;
 - 4. Exhausts all measure before granting expulsion of students or appeals of suspensions;
 - 5. Establishes policies to ensure school personnel's participation and involvement in parent-school organizations;
 - 6. Develops a fee schedule for the use of PSS facilities, buses, equipment or property;
 - 7. Reviews and approves all travel authorizations and vouchers;
 - 8. Reviews and approves all obligation documents;
 - 9. Reviews and approves all personnel service contracts;
 - 16. Presents an annual plan of staff organization and the assignment of personnel to the Board;
 - 17. Prepares and submits to the Board Standard Operating Administrative Procedures;
 - 18. Serves as a liaison on behalf of the Public School System with the Commonwealth Legislature, the Governor, various Commonwealth departments, agencies, and the community;
 - 19. Communicates and informs the Board of all significant developments;
 - 20. The Commissioner shall perform these duties as well as all other duties as may be assigned by the Board consistent with Board policies.
 - 21. Shall promote clear communications and parental involvement including school communities.

JOB RELATED DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNMENTS:

The statements contained herein describe the scope of the responsibility and essential function of this position, but should not be considered to be the only duties and responsibilities of employee(s). Individuals may perform other duties as assigned including work in other areas to cover absences or relief to equalize peak work periods or otherwise balance the workload. Employee(s) may be requested to supervise and/or train the employees. Employee(s) will be required to follow any other job-related duties requested by any person authorized to give instructions or assignments.

FORTY (40) HOUR WORKWEEK:

The normal work period shall be a seven (7) days work period with a maximum non-overtime of forty (40) hours.

The Public School System (PSS) operates on a 40 hour work week. Actual working hours will be determined on the basis of operational efficiency. School Principals, Supervisors or Program Managers will establish working schedules subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION OF THE JOB:

The duties and responsibilities listed herein have excluded the functions of the position that are incidental to the performance of fundamental job duties. All duties and responsibilities listed herein are essential job functions and requirements and are subject to modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities. To perform this job successfully, the incumbent(s) will possess the skills, aptitudes, and abilities to perform each duty proficiently. Some positions may exclude individuals who pose a direct threat or significant risk to the health or safety of themselves or others. The qualification requirements listed in this document are the minimum levels of knowledge, abilities and skills required to perform this position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant for the Commissioner of Education must have the following minimum qualifications:

1. Masters Degree in some field of education from a U.S. accredited college or university
2. At least five (5) years experience as a classroom teacher and at least five (5) years experience as a school administrator
3. Demonstrated knowledge of state and local education systems
4. Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge of multilingual school systems
5. Excellent written and oral communication skills in English
6. Eligible to work in the U.S. including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
7. Excellent moral character and has never been convicted of a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

- Good interpersonal and communication skills. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, including giving and receiving feedback
- Awareness of and sensitivity to cultural issues and local community practices.
- Ability to work as part of a team. Strong staff collaboration is a standard at the PSS.
- Ability to perform multiple tasks.
- Demonstrate integrity and impartiality.
- Professional, interpersonal and communication skills.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, including giving and receiving feedback.
- Awareness of and sensitivity to cultural issues and local community practices.

CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

This position is considered "EXEMPT STATUS": It is NOT eligible for overtime pay or compensatory time and is paid on a salary basis pursuant to Regulations for PSS Employment of Non-Certified Personnel and Fair Labor Standards Act.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

All applicants must complete and submit a Board of Education/Public School System Non-Certified Employment Application Form. Interested applicants may obtain the application form at the Human Resources Office located on Capitol Hill, Building 1202. The Non-Certified Employment Application Form may also be downloaded from the website at <http://www.cnmpss.org/jva/>. Interested individuals may also call the Human Resources Office for an electronic copy of the form.

All inquiries related to this vacancy should be forwarded to: Ms. Lucretia Borja, Assistant Director of the Human Resources Office, CNMI Public School System, P.O.Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950. Phone number 670-664-3824; Fax number 670-664-3826; Email address: lucretia.borja@cnmpss.org; brandon.nicholas@cnmpss.org

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN AND SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS TO THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT CAPITOL HILL BUILDING 1202.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO APPLICATION FORMS: RESUME OR CURRICULUM VITAE; WRITTEN RESPONSE TO NARRATIVE QUESTIONS (INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION PACKET OR ON THE WEBSITE); FOUR (4) RECENT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION REGARDING YOUR PROFESSIONAL WORK AND EXPERIENCE IN STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATION SYSTEMS; OFFICIAL COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY TRANSCRIPTS

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OR MAILED TO: CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, CAPITOL HILL BUILDING 1202 P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, and TEL. NO. (670) 664-3824.

YOUR APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE OF THE POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT.

Hawaii volcano offers view of rolling, spattering lava

HONOLULU (AP)—The lava lake at the summit of Hawaii's Kilauea volcano has been rising in recent days, offering visitors a dramatic view of rolling, spattering hot rock.

Hawaiian Volcano Observatory research scientist Don Swanson said Monday scientists don't know exactly why the lava is this high.

It's relatively unusual, though. Lava overflowed onto the crater floor in May of last year, raising the rim that confines the lake by another 30 feet. Before last year, it was last this high in the 1974 and in the late 1960s.

Swanson says the lake is particularly colorful to watch at night from the Jaggar Museum at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. "People from the museum can see the incandescent lava and watch the spattering that's taking place along the edge of the lake," Swanson said.

He encouraged people to take a look for themselves. "It's really quite pretty," he said.

Kilauea volcano has been



In this Sept. 10, 2016, photo released by the U.S. Geological Survey shows the east edge of Halemaumau Crater spattering lava at the south corner of the Kilauea's summit lake after it rose over the weekend, to within about 5 m (16 ft) of the floor of Halemaumau Crater, before dropping back down slightly with the onset of spattering in the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, in Hawaii.

erupting continuously since 1983. It is one of the world's most active volcanoes.

It is currently erupting from

two places. One is from the summit's Halemaumau crater. The other is from the Puu Oo crater in the volcano's east-

ern rift. Lava recently started flowing into the ocean from the latter eruption for the first time in three years.

Report: Hawaii average home prices highest in the nation

HONOLULU (AP)—A new report shows Hawaii has the nation's highest average home prices as the cost of housing in the state has soared over the last year.

The 2016 Coldwell Banker Home Listing Report ranked states based on their average price for a home with four bedrooms and two bathrooms. Hawaii took the top spot with average home prices at nearly \$905,000.

That's about \$325,000 more than homes in the second-priciest state, Massachusetts.

The figures represent an increase from the real estate company's analysis last year, which found the average price of a four-bedroom home in Hawaii was about \$655,000, Hawaii News Now reported (<http://bit.ly/2cnIfYo>).

Honolulu had the state's highest average home prices this year at \$1.2 million. The city ranked 14th among the nation's municipalities, up from 17th in 2015.

The average price of a four-bedroom in Kapolei was listed at \$708,000, up from \$569,000 last year. In Ewa Beach, the average price is \$653,000, compared to \$597,000 last year.

The report found that the country's most expensive market was Saratoga, California, where the average four-bedroom home costs \$2.5 million.

Detroit was ranked as the nation's most affordable market, with an average four-bedroom home price of \$64,000.

Coldwell Banker's annual report includes data for more than 2,000 real estate markets nationwide.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB 16-DLNR/DFW-166 (A) (B)**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF LARGE FORMAT PRINTER (PLOTTER) AND A LARGE FORMAT SCANNER FOR DLNR – DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ RICHARD B. SEMAN
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB 16-TDLNR-167 – CIF TINIAN**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "I" (SUV) VEHICLE FOR TINIAN DEPARTMENT OF LANDS & NATURAL RESOURCES"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/S/ JOEY P. SAN NICLAS
MAYOR OF TINIAN & AGUIGAN

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

/S/ GUILLERMO C. BORIA
RESIDENT DEPARTMENT HEAD, TDLN

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, September 21, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room located on the second floor of the Capt. George Fleming at the Port of Saipan on Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IV. BOARD ORGANIZATION
1. Election of Officers
2. Appointments of Standing Committee Chairs and members

V. CORRESPONDENCES

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee
3. Personnel Affairs Committee

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VIII. OLD BUSINESS
1. Approval of administrative rules – Retention of documents
2. Personnel Matter: Employment Contract – Rota Ports Manager
3. Proposed Salary increases for Port Managers

IX. NEW BUSINESS
1. Appointment of Deputy Director
2. Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Budget
3. Amendment to AECOM's contract – Saipan ARFF Training Facility
4. Fiscal Year 2016 Audit

X. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

JOSE R. LIFOILO
Chairman, Board of Directors

September 14, 2016

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold its regular meeting on **Thursday, September 22, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten DanDan Building, Saipan to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA*

I. Preliminary Matters
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes
1. July 7-8, 2016 Regular Board Meetings
2. July 19-25, 2016 Special Board Meetings

E. Correspondence

II. Public Comments**

III. Management Reports
A. Executive Director
1. Update on SO1 and SO2 Projects
2. Update on EPA Grant Projects

B. Chief Financial Officer

C. Legal Counsel

IV. Executive Session***
1. Consultation with Legal Counsel on Personnel and Operations Matters

V. Board Reports/Miscellaneous Administrative Matters/New Business
1. Personnel Committee
2. Operations Committee

VI. Adjournment

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda may be modified during the meeting.
** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
*** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB 16-DPW/ED-168**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

**"LEASE OF A CLASS "H" VEHICLE (4X2 PICK-UP TRUCK)
FOR 24 MONTHS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
ENERGY DIVISION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB 16-DPW/ED-169**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

**"LEASE OF A CLASS "D" VEHICLE (4 DOOR SEDAN)
FOR 24 MONTHS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
ENERGY DIVISION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

Fashion show at Int'l Festival of Cultures tomorrow

The ethnic costumes of some of the many cultures living in the Northern Marianas take the stage tomorrow, Saturday, Sept. 17, as the 2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures features a fashion show from 8:15pm to 9pm at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.

This Saturday's stage en-

tertainment will also include performances by the Japanese community at 5:45pm, the Chamorro community at 6pm, the Chuukese community at 6:30pm and 8pm, the Filipino community at 6:45pm and 7:45pm, the Korean community at 7pm, the Tahiti/Marquesas/Cook Islands com-

munity at 9pm, the Fiji/Tonga/Samoan community at 9:15pm, and the Carolinian community at 9:30pm.

Other cultures participating in the festival include Marshall Islands, Bangladesh, and the Federated States of Micronesia. The festival is held every Saturday in September

from 5pm to 10pm.

"Now that more cultural communities are available to join the festival, it has become even more exciting," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "With our emphasis this year on hands-on experiences, both visitors and residents seem

to be experiencing more the community spirit the International Festival of Cultures is meant to celebrate."

This year, the MVA and participating cultures are putting equal emphasis on stage entertainment and hands-on experiences. The festival also includes arts and crafts, games,

and ethnic cuisine.

The festival is sponsored by PDM Promoters, Team PDI, Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, KKMP, Best Sunshine International, Ltd., and Power 99. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Chamorro and Carolinian communities perform together at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 10, 2016. The festival will be held on every Saturday in September from 5pm to 10pm at Paseo de Marianas and will feature hands-on demonstrations, live performances, arts and crafts sales, ethnic cuisine, and more.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Children of the Samoa/Fiji/Tonga community dance at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 10, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Children enjoy a game of ring toss at the Japanese booth at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 10, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Children of the Samoa/Fiji/Tonga community perform at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 10, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Samoa/Tonga/Fiji community demonstrates a fire knife dance at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 3, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A festival-goer tries the drums of the Korean community at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 3, 2016.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAI PAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CAR RENTAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-13.**

One (1) original and four (4) copies of the sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, on or before **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2016**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of the construction of a new car rental building roof repairs and miscellaneous improvements, all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being funded by Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages shall be imposed in the amount of **SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$600.00)** per day if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Saipan Airport Conference Room, Commonwealth Ports Authority Office, Saipan at **10:00 am, September 30, 2016**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference. All perspective bidders are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are encouraged to use the CD bid schedule form. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Non-segregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **five percent (5%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Acting Executive Director

Date: September 3, 2016



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INVITATION TO BID

ITB16-GOV-180 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building (Office of the Governor)

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Office are soliciting sealed bids for supply and installation of typhoon shutters for the Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, also known as the Office of the Governor on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available September 16, 2016 at the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A \$50.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) in Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIA) §70-30.3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 10:00 am ChST at the Governor's Office conference room in Capitol Hill, Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Leona DLG. Sablan in writing by e-mail: leona.cip@gmail.com, on or before October 7, 2016 to the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked *ITB16-GOV-180 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building*. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST October 17, 2016. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST October 17, 2016 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 17, 2016 and the bid documents must be received no later than October 26, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at 10:00 a.m. ChST October 27, 2016. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at 10:00 a.m. ChST October 17, 2016.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Government Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

Nation

Update from doctor: Clinton is 'fit to serve'

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP)—Hoping to put the issue of her health behind her as she gets ready to return to the campaign trail, Hillary Clinton on Wednesday released an updated review of her physical fitness and details about a recent bout of pneumonia.

"She is recovering well with antibiotics and rest," said her doctor, Lisa Bardack, in a letter released by her campaign. "She continues to remain healthy and fit to serve as President of the United States."

The details made public by the Democratic presidential nominee included a description of the pneumonia diagnosis she received last week. Her illness became public after she left Sunday's 9/11 memorial service in New York early and was seen on video staggering while getting into a van.

The health episode fueled long-simmering conservative conspiracy theories about Clinton's health and provided a fresh line of attack for rival Donald Trump, who has frequently questioned whether Clinton has the stamina to serve as commander in chief.

At a Wednesday evening rally in Canton, Ohio, Trump

noted the room filled with 5,000 people was hot.

"You think Hillary would be able to stand up here for an hour and do this?" he asked. "I don't think so."

Trump later added at the same rally, "We want her better, we want her back on the trail."

The Republican nominee, meanwhile, handed over a one-page summary of a recent physical exam to the celebrity doctor Mehmet Oz while taping an episode of Oz's talk show. But voters will have to wait another day for details: The show does not air until Thursday.

The letter from Bardack, the chair of internal medicine at CareMount Medical in Mount Kisco, New York, said a chest scan revealed the candidate had "mild, non-contagious bacterial pneumonia." She was treated with a 10-day course of Levaquin, an antibiotic used to treat infections.

The letter says the illness stemmed from a bout of seasonal allergies that developed into an upper respiratory tract infection and cough. Clinton's pneumonia symptoms began around the start of this month, and she saw Bardack on Sept.

2 for a low-grade fever, congestion and fatigue.

The letter also notes that in January, during the run-up to the Iowa caucuses, Clinton received treatment for a sinus and ear infection that included placing a drainage tube in her left ear. A CT scan of her brain and sinuses showed no abnormalities and mild chronic sinus inflammation.

Clinton, 68, has blood pressure of 100 over 70 - within healthy levels and not signaling the need for any medications. She has also had a normal mammogram and breast ultrasound, according to the letter.

The letter from Clinton's doctor made no mention of her weight, a key part of any medical exam, nor did a similar letter released last year.

"These numbers suggest she's a healthy 68-year-old woman with a very favorable cardiovascular risk profile," said Dr. Mark Creager, director of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock heart and vascular center in Lebanon, New Hampshire, and a past president of the American Heart Association.

Testing that shows no evidence of plaque building up in her arteries "is all very reassuring," he said.

Trump, interrupted, heckled in visit to Flint church

FLINT, Mich. (AP)—Donald Trump was cut off, chastised and then heckled after he attacked rival Hillary Clinton during what was supposed to be a speech on helping where the government had failed the people of Flint, Michigan.

"Mr. Trump, I invited you here to thank us for what we've done in Flint, not give a political speech," said the Rev. Faith Green Timmons, the pastor of the Bethel United Methodist Church.

The Republican nominee

quickly stopped, then said "Ok, that's good. Then I'm going to go back to Flint" and its water crisis that had sickened its citizens.

But the interruption seemed to embolden those in the sparse crowd. One woman shouted that Trump had used discriminatory housing practices in his buildings, causing the celebrity businessman to respond, "Never, you're wrong. Never would."

Trump abruptly ended his speech, which had lasted six minutes. More heckling followed him out.

The visit was part of the campaign's effort to persuade voters that the celebrity businessman can appear empathetic and presidential in a crisis. Trump also has

his eye on a good showing in the industrial Midwest, though polls have him down in Michigan, which last went Republican in 1988.

The trip was the Republican presidential nominee's first visit to the poverty-stricken city since lead was detected in its water supply in April 2014. More than 100,000 had their water contaminated after the city left Detroit's water supply and started using improperly treated Flint River water.

Trump did address the crisis, saying at the church "We will get it fixed and it will be fixed and effectively and Flint will come back. Most importantly, we'll bring jobs back."

He also bemoaned that previously "cars were made in Flint and you couldn't drink the water in Mexico. Now cars are made in Mexico and you can't drink the water in Flint."

Trump visited the traditionally African American church in the impoverished city to pay tribute to the city's resiliency. But then, he attacked Clinton, saying "everything she touched didn't work out." Timmons then stepped up and interrupted him.

Others began to heckle the GOP presidential nominee.

The pastor stepped in and silenced them too, saying that Trump "is our guest" who should be honored.

But when Trump abruptly ended his speech, a few more in the crowd yelled at him as he walked off stage.

One black woman, Reneta Richard, yelled at him "What do you mean, 'African-Americans have nothing to lose?'" repeating back to Trump his recent call for African-Americans to turn their back on Democrats and vote for him.

The reverend had said in a statement distributed to reporters that the visit "in no way" represented an endorsement of Trump's candidacy.

"What we pray is that it conveys a fine example of a faithful, intelligent, historically African-American congregating at work, serving and volunteering among the people of Flint as we work through this crisis of national impact," read the statement. "We cannot let this story drift from national attention for any reason."

But later at a rally in Ohio, Trump insisted he was undeterred by the tough reception and would be "willing to campaign anywhere, even if voters openly oppose me somewhere."

Asia

Witness says PH president ordered killings

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A former Filipino militiaman testified before the country's Senate on Thursday that President Rodrigo Duterte, when he was still a city mayor, ordered him and other members of a liquidation squad to kill criminals and opponents in gangland-style assaults that left about 1,000 dead.

Edgar Matobato, 57, told the nationally televised Senate committee hearing that he heard Duterte order some of the killings and acknowledged he himself carried out about 50 of the abductions and deadly assaults, including a man who they fed to a crocodile in 2007 in southern Davao city.

The Senate committee inquiry was being led by Sen. Leila de Lima, a staunch critic of Duterte's anti-drug campaign that has left more than 3,000 suspected drug users and dealers dead since he assumed the presidency in June. Duterte has accused de Lima of involvement in illegal drugs, alleging that she used to have a driver who took money from detained drug lords. She has denied the allegations.

The hearing was briefly halted so senators could discuss



Former Filipino militiaman Edgar Matobato answers questions as he testifies before the Philippine Senate in Pasay, south of Manila, Philippines on Thursday Sept. 15, 2016.

how to provide security for Matobato because of the explosive nature of his allegations.

"Our job was to kill criminals like drug pushers, rapists, snatchers," Matobato said under oath, adding some of the targets were not criminals but opponents of Duterte and one of his sons in Davao city.

Presidential spokesman Martin Andanar rejected the allegations, saying government investigations into Duterte's time as mayor of Davao had already gone nowhere because of a lack of real evidence.

There was no immediate reaction from Duterte, who has denied any role in extrajudicial killings when he was the longtime mayor of Davao and after he assumed the presidency in June.

Matobato said the victims in Davao allegedly ranged from petty criminals to people associated with Duterte's political opponents, and included a wealthy businessman who was killed in central Cebu province because of a feud with Duterte's son over a woman.

UN chief says he's never seen tensions so high in Koreas

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said Wednesday he has never seen tensions on the Korean peninsula as high as they are today and he called on the Security Council to take urgent action to prevent "provocative actions" by North Korea.

Ban, a former South Korean foreign minister, told a news conference that U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power has already begun work with key council members including China on a new U.N. resolution, which is expected to strengthen sanctions on North Korea.

He said it's urgent that the council unite, "show firm resolve" and commitment, and not lose time in sending a strong message to the authorities in Pyongyang that their

nuclear tests and ballistic missile launches are unacceptable and must stop.

North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test last Friday and has launched more than 20 ballistic missiles this year, part of its program aimed at improving the delivery system for nuclear weapons.

"The level of tension on the Korean peninsula has gone much, much higher," Ban said. "Never in the past I have seen such kind of heightened tension on the Korean peninsula."

"So it is very important that the United Nations Security Council should be united and take urgent actions to prevent, first of all, for the provocative actions by DPRK," he said, using the initials of the country's official name, the Democratic People's Re-

public of Korea.

Ban said the council should also "try to take the necessary measures to send ... strong messages to the authorities of DPRK"

The U.N. chief was asked about the possibility of traveling to Pyongyang to de-escalate tensions and open a new channel of diplomatic communications, "also in view of your possible candidacy as president of your country next year."

Reporters at the news conference laughed, since Ban has often deflected widespread rumors that he will be a candidate for president. Ban replied with a smile, "Thank you for your question, but there are some incorrect parts in your question. Therefore I'll try to focus on the correct part of your question."

Animal sacrifices turn Dhaka streets into rivers of blood

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—Large-scale animal sacrifices marking the Islamic festival of Eid al-Adha combined with heavy rains have turned the streets of Bangladesh's capital into rivers of blood.

Authorities in Dhaka designated several places in the city where residents could slaughter animals, but heavy downpours Tuesday meant few

people could use those areas.

Muslims traditionally mark Eid al-Adha, or the Feast of Sacrifice, by slaughtering livestock. Usually a goat, sheep or a cow is killed to commemorate Prophet Ibrahim's test of faith.

The meat of the sacrificed animals is shared among family and friends and poor people who cannot afford to sacrifice animals as a gesture of generosity.

It to promote social harmony.

Dhaka residents used parking lots, garages and alleys to kill the animals and the blood flowed into the flooded streets, turning them into rivers of blood.

Flooding is common in Dhaka, an overcrowded city of more than 10 million people, because of poor drainage systems.

World

In long, bloody Syria war, this truce may be different

BEIRUT (AP)—Five years of failed efforts to quell the fighting in Syria have persuaded many observers that the war, inconclusive and catastrophic on a historic scale, may not be resolvable. A truce earlier this year took effect, soon started to fray, then vanished. But some things are different this week as a ceasefire brokered by the United States and Russia took effect.

The reasons for pessimism are clear.

Syrian President Bashar Assad is deeply entrenched in Damascus and seems willing to do whatever it takes to stay in power. He enjoys support not only among his fellow Alawites, followers of an offshoot of Shia Islam, but from Christians and other minority groups. Many fear his authoritarian rule less than a scenario in which security services collapse and the country falls into the hands of Islamist Sunnis.

Meanwhile, the factions fighting Assad are beset by competing agendas and visions for a future Syria. Gradually Sunni Islamists have overshadowed the original "moderates" of the Free Syria Army and its splinter groups. That lends some resonance to Assad's message that, in effect, he is the least bad option.

The United States has not been eager to wade into this quagmire. The Obama administration and its allies have lightly armed and trained some of the supposedly moderate rebel groups but have refused a more robust intervention and have not supported calls for a no-fly zone in the country's north. Vladimir Putin's Russia was able to step in, bolster Assad and carve out a leadership role.

Still, a deeper look at the landscape does reveal some movement that allows a glimmer of hope that a turning point may have been reached with the truce that took effect Monday.

Restraining Assad's military

In accepting the cease-fire, Assad vowed to recover all the land he lost in the war. But terms of the deal, revealed to The Associated Press by U.S. officials, appear to freeze in place many of the rebels' gains. During an initial period, all attacks are to stop

except those targeting the Islamic State group, al-Qaida-linked militants and other jihadist groups, and peace talks are to follow.

Previous talks in Geneva collapsed in part because the Assad government never fully respected a cease-fire timed to facilitate negotiations. It claimed it was targeting al-Qaida-linked terrorists, but other rebel groups, as well as a marketplace, a school and a hospital, were also struck. Now that pretext is gone: If the current cease-fire holds for one week, the U.S. and Russia agreed to coordinate strikes against al-Qaida offshoots and the Islamic State group, and Assad is to limit military operations to IS territory only.

The next five days are crucial. Assad is still allowed to strike al-Qaida-linked fighters during this time. But if Assad refrains from targeting other rebel groups, and the U.S. and Russia exercise their firepower judiciously, the conditions on the ground could allow for talks that Russia's Foreign Ministry says could resume as early as next month.

Accepting Assad?

Every previous peace effort has foundered over the insistence by the Syrian opposition, backed by much of the world, that Assad must go—and yet no party has been willing or able to do what it takes to remove him. There are signs, however, that the demand is looser now.

Turkey conceded last month that it would accept a role for Assad in a transition period. The U.S. has also quietly walked back its call for his immediate departure. None of the discourse around the current cease-fire addressed Assad's future—only a "peace process" to follow the cessation of hostilities.

That may be a reason why some U.S. officials seem unhappy with the deal and have apparently balked at releasing its precise text.

One possible avenue might be to hold genuinely free, internationally supervised elections in which Assad would be able to run. The United Nations has said it wants elections to be held next year. A future with a democratically legitimate Assad may seem improbable, but optimists

may see such a vote as a way to finesse an end to the conflict.

Great power cooperation

It is remarkable to observe how the Syria war has now made a partner out of Putin's Russia, only recently vilified for seizing Crimea from Ukraine and fomenting warfare in that country, among other affronts to the order of things preferred by the West.

The fear, until recently, had been of an inadvertent clash between global powers—and indeed Turkey last year flirted with trouble by shooting down a Russian warplane. Now the United States and Russia have agreed to set up a Joint Implementation Center to delineate territory and choose targets for coordinated airstrikes against Islamic State and al-Qaida-linked jihadists beginning next week, according to U.S. officials. That kind of Western-Russian cooperation has rarely been seen and could resonate even beyond the Syria conflict.

But al-Qaida's Syria affiliate is entwined with rebels the U.S. backs, raising concerns among Pentagon officials, who worry Moscow will target America's proxies. Will the ambiguities of the map drive the two powers apart?

Running out of gas

Some wars seem like they could last forever—think Afghanistan today or the Thirty Years' War in Central Europe in the 17th Century. That tends to happen when no one is winning, as essentially is the case in Syria. But even then, the combatants tend to eventually run out of steam, or ammunition, or the patience of the world.

That happened 20 years ago in Bosnia, another conflict where tens of thousands were killed, masses of refugees fled to northern Europe, and the world community grew increasingly embarrassed at watching from the sidelines. Foreign intervention in the form of the U.S.-led Dayton Agreement froze the conflict in place and established an ethnic-based confederative structure in Bosnia—one that looked unwieldy but has somehow proven stable.

Off The Wall

Alibaba fires four employees accused of stealing mooncakes

BEIJING (AP)—Four employees at Chinese internet giant Alibaba have lost their jobs after being accused of reprogramming an internal system to steal more than 100 boxes of mooncakes, a traditional delicacy shared during this week's Mid-Autumn Festival.

State media reported Wednesday that Alibaba had offered a discount to employees for buying the circular treats, given during the festival that begins Thursday.

They said the fired employees exploited loopholes in the software to obtain more than the allotted amount and pilfered a total of 124 boxes of cakes.

An Alibaba statement said



An employee stands on a stepladder as she stocks boxes of mooncakes at a supermarket in Beijing, Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016.

the firings were "unfortunate, but we wish them a better future." The employees were not identified.

Alibaba is the world's

largest e-commerce platform. Its initial public offering in 2014 was the largest in the New York Stock Exchange's history.

Texan wins glove nearly 60 years after baseball card contest

GRAND PRAIRIE, Texas (AP)—A candy company has stuck to its word and sent a Texas man a Louisville Slugger glove nearly 60 years after a bubble gum and baseball card contest began.

Darwin Day, 70, of Grand Prairie was cleaning his house and found a complete collection of Topps baseball cards from 1957-58, The Dallas Morning News (<http://bit.ly/2cN1ARv>) reports. The cards were included with Bazooka bubble gum purchases.

Day said he was prompted to clean out his own house after having been tasked with cleaning out the Virginia home that belonged to his

brother, who died of cancer earlier this year.

Day, who leads tours of Globe Life Park, has always been a baseball fan and at his brother's celebration of life, he led those in attendance in singing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

"It was such a consuming job that it made me think that maybe I ought to clean out my own house," Day said. "So I did that, and I came across these cards."

One of the cards touted a contest: "Win These Swell Prizes in the 4th Bazooka Baseball Contest." To enter, the card owner had to correctly fill out scores from some professional baseball games and remit the card.

Day said no deadline was listed on the card, so he sent the completed entry card to an executive at Bazooka Candy Brands, a division of the New York-based Topps Company.

"It did pique my interest, this kind of mysterious letter," said Tony Jacobs, global general manager of Topps Confectionery Brands. Jacobs who joined Topps three years ago and manages the candy wing of the company, which includes Bazooka Bubble Gum.

Day was in bed he received when he received a call from Rogers & Cowan, a marketing firm that represents Topps. They told Day Topps was going to honor the contest.

has been clinging to his mother. Officials say Batang and Kyle, also 19, bred this winter, following a breeding recommendation from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Staffers have been preparing Batang for motherhood over the last three years. Two other females were trained to act as surrogates in case Batang couldn't or wouldn't care for her infant. The International Union for Conservation of Nature lists Bornean and Sumatran orangutans as critically endangered.

Britain's new money is plastic

LONDON (AP)—The times they have changed: Britain's new money is plastic. The new 5-pound (\$6.60) bill introduced Tuesday is strong polymer and can handle a trip through the washing machine without shredding like the paper cash it's replacing. It's got the latest anti-counterfeit and security features and Bank of England officials insist it will be cleaner, safer and stronger than paper money. But it's not all new and modern: The portrait on the new fiver depicts wartime leader Winston Churchill, still one of Britain's most revered statesmen. Some 440 million of the new notes will be phased in, to be followed in the coming years by new 10-pound and 20-pound plastic bills. Paper 5-pound bills will be usable until May 5.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Wedding ring returned to owner, 37 years after he lost it

MADRID (AP)—Agustín Aliaga's marriage to his wife Juani Sanchez has lasted 37 years, even though he lost his wedding ring just months after they tied the knot. But now, the ring has been found. Diver Jessy Nisos says she found a gold wedding ring while scuba diving last month off Benidorm in Spain. She posted a photo of it on Facebook and gave the wedding date inscribed on it: Feb. 17, 1979. She asked people to share the post, noting that "it got lost a long, long time ago because it was covered with sediment." More than 80,000 people shared the post, with word finally reaching Aliaga and Sanchez in the northeastern city of Zaragoza. Sanchez says she called Nisos and both of them burst into tears.

It's a boy! Orangutan born at National Zoo, 1st in 25 years

WASHINGTON (AP)—National Zoo officials are celebrating the birth of a Bornean orangutan, the first at the zoo in 25 years. Officials said in a statement Tuesday that 19-year-old Batang gave birth to a son Monday. Staffers are cautiously optimistic that the new member of the critically endangered species will thrive. They have seen Batang nursing the infant, who

Science & Technology

Review: The iPhone 7 is just fine, even if it doesn't wow

TIBURON, Calif. (AP)—Apple's new iPhone 7 and 7 Plus are clearly improvements on their predecessors—even if the biggest change is actually an omission (of the traditional headphone jack). But are they improved enough to justify an upgrade?

If you're an iPhone user, it may depend on how long you've held onto your current iPhone. If you're a proud owner of the iPhone 6S or its plus-sized cousin, you probably don't need to rush out for the 7. But the 7 includes enough cumulative iPhone improvements from the past two years to tempt anyone still clinging to an older model.

For instance, the iPhone 7 is seriously water resistant; putting it under a faucet for a few minutes merely muffled the speakers and made the touch screen stop working until I dried it off. It's got louder speakers, a brighter screen and, in the larger 7 Plus, a second camera lens—a low-powered but useful zoom. Add to that a sharper 12 megapixel camera introduced with the 6S.

All iPhone 7 models come with twice the storage as the comparable 6S, at mostly the same price. That's "mostly" because the \$769 starting price for the larger iPhone 7 Plus is \$20 more than comparable past models. The regular iPhone 7 stays at \$649. Both entry-level phones now have 32 gigabytes rather than 16.

Listening wired ...

Without the traditional headphone jack, wired headphones plug into the Lightning port normally used for charging. But the jack's disappearance doesn't present the problem you might expect, given that iPhone 7 comes with a 3-inch-long adapter for your old headphones. A replacement costs \$9 if you lose it (I've misplaced one already in less than a week).

To charge your phone while listening, you need a \$99 battery case or a third-party adapter. Neither is included. Also, your iPhone 7 headphones won't work with any other device that uses the old-fashioned jack.

... and unwired

Of course, you can just go wireless, as Apple would love you to do. Its upcoming \$159 AirPods are two tiny inch-and-a-half Bluetooth earpieces designed to integrate with Ap-

ple's software. Setting them up involves little more than opening the case near your phone and tapping "Connect."

Audio plays automatically when you're wearing them, and pauses when you pop one out to talk to someone. Double tapping on an earpiece let me ask the Siri voice assistant to change the volume, rewind or check the weather. (They do look a little like dangling earrings when you have them in.)

The AirPods picked up my voice pretty well, even when I spoke softly, and calls sounded fine in controlled environments. Siri had some trouble when Shakira blared in the background, but that's no different from using the phone in a loud bar. And next to a busy highway in New York, the call sounded fine to me, but the person I was speaking with thought it sounded like a speaker phone.

The AirPods did stay in my ears through one bike ride, eight runs and some jumps, though one dropped out as I changed my shirt.

Apple promises five hours of continuous use; I got well over that, although voice calls will eat up their tiny batteries much faster. You can also double your listening by using one AirPod at a time. The AirPods come in a case that resembles a pack of dental floss; it also recharges the earpieces, extending usage to 24 hours. The Lightning charging cord for your phone can recharge the case, too.

But the AirPods still seem remarkably easy to lose. The case helps, but I also lose dental floss regularly (don't tell my dentist). I also get careless with wired headphones; I've even run a pair through the wash, which was no big deal since they cost just \$29. Of course, you might be more careful with \$160 accessories. Apple does plan to sell single earpieces and the case separately, but hasn't announced prices.

The wired headphones that come with the 7 work just fine—and will still cost \$29 to replace. Apple isn't promising better sound—at least for now—despite the Lightning port's ability to deliver audio digitally. But third-party headsets might be able to offer advanced features such as noise cancellation without needing a separate battery.

AirPods will work with

older iPhones once they get the free iOS 10 software upgrade. Connect them once, and they'll work on iPads and Macs on the same iCloud account, too. Though the iPhone 7 is available this Friday, AirPods won't come out until late October.

Better images

While smartphone cameras have long offered zooming, these are typically done with software tricks that degrade image quality. The iPhone 7 Plus has a second lens that offers 2X optical zoom without any image degradation. (Technically, it's not a true zoom lens, but it uses a separate camera system to achieve a similar effect.)

Twice the magnification might not sound like much, but it makes a big difference when you're zeroing in on one aspect of a scene. If you then need "digital zoom"—as those software tricks are known—you're at least starting out with a sharper image. For close-ups, the zoom lens lets you step back to keep your shadow out of the shot.

It's a shame the iPhone 7 doesn't have the second lens as well, but it might take a few years for that to happen. Something similar occurred with anti-shake technology, which took two years to move from the Plus to the regular size starting with the iPhone 7.

The selfie camera also got better in the iPhone 7. Resolution increases to 7 megapixels, from 5 megapixels, so the selfie camera no longer feels inferior.

Other improvements

The new iPhones now have stereo speakers and play audio twice as loud as before. I could do the dishes with the faucet running and still hear my music without putting on headphones. The screens are also brighter, which could help in direct sunlight.

Apple says battery life improves by an hour or two, thanks to higher capacity and efficiencies. No battery is ever going to be enough, but Apple promises 12 to 15 hours of internet use.

If you do upgrade, consider the new jet black model. The back is polished so finely that it looks like glass, yet has the strength of aluminum. It smudges easily—but of course you ought to have a case anyway.

Life & Style

Ryan Lochte protesters defend TV show ambush after arrest

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The protesters who ambushed Ryan Lochte on “Dancing with the Stars” are defending their actions after being released from jail.

Sam Satoodeh and Barzeen Soroudi were arrested on suspicion of misdemeanor trespassing and each held on \$1,000 bail after the pair rushed the stage Monday to protest the Olympic swimmer on the ABC ballroom dancing competition.

“Our purpose is to get the message out that Lochte is a coward, a liar and under

Brazilian law, a criminal,” Satoodeh told ABC News outside of jail Tuesday.

Soroudi added that he believed Lochte “embarrassed Americans on the world’s stage, and this was our form of protesting against that.”

Lochte and his swimming teammates have faced criticism since they were involved in an early-morning drunken encounter during the Olympics last month at a gas station in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. They later claimed they were threatened and robbed.

Satoodeh and Soroudi rushed the stage in anti-Lochte T-shirts while the swimmer was receiving scores from judge Carrie Ann Inaba for his debut performance during a live installment of the celebrity ballroom dance competition.

“Hey, back off,” Inaba said as the altercation was occurring off screen.

ABC’s “Good Morning America” aired video that wasn’t shown during the live broadcast of Satoodeh being tackled on stage by security and other protesters in the audience

In this Aug. 9, 2016, file photo, United States’ Ryan Lochte prepares before a men’s 4x200-meter freestyle heat at the 2016 Summer Olympics, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. AP

chanting “liar” as they were escorted out of the soundstage.

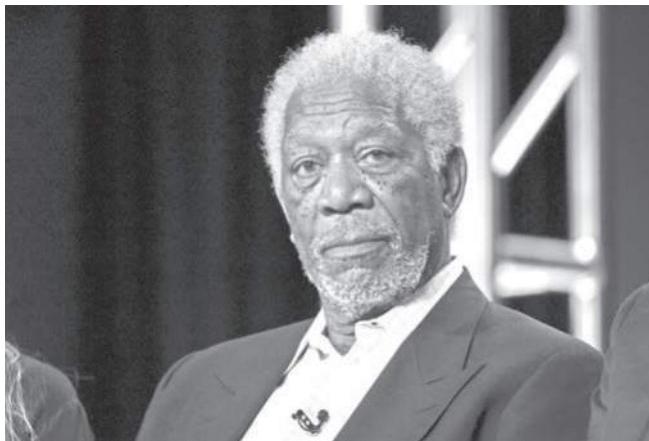
During the episode, the Olympic medalist performed a foxtrot routine with professional partner Cheryl Burke to “Call Me Irresponsible.” They received a combined score from the judges of 24 out of 40.

Mel Brooks, Morgan Freeman to get National Medal of Arts

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama will honor actors Mel Brooks and Morgan Freeman with the 2015 National Medal of Arts, the White House said Wednesday.

The artists and other leading creative figures have been invited to receive the medal at a White House ceremony on Sept. 22. First lady Michelle Obama also planned to attend.

The White House said Brooks was being honored for “a lifetime of making the world laugh.” The actor, director, writer and musician is one of the few artists to have won an Oscar, an Emmy, a Tony



and a Grammy.

Freeman will be honored for his work as an actor, director and narrator.

“His iconic stage and screen performances have brought to life characters from the whole spectrum of the human experi-

In this Jan. 6, 2016, file photo, actor Morgan Freeman participates in the “The Story of God” panel at the National Geographic Channel 2016 Winter TCA in Pasadena, Calif. President

ence, moving audiences around the world, and influencing countless young artists,” the White House said in a statement.

Other winners this year include composer Philip Glass, actress and singer Audra McDonald, author Sandra Cisneros and painter Jack Whitten. Musician Santiago Jimenez Jr. and playwright Moises Kaufman are also on the list.

TV's new ‘Star Trek’ takeoff delayed until May 2017

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The latest TV edition of “Star Trek” is launching a few months later than planned.

Streaming service CBS All Access said Wednesday that “Star Trek: Discovery” will debut in May 2017 instead of

January.

In a statement, series producers Alex Kurtzman and Bryan Fuller said their aim is to “dream big and deliver” and they decided the additional time was needed to achieve their vi-

sion for the show.

After its premiere next spring on the CBS broadcast network, further episodes of the new “Star Trek” series will be available only on CBS All Access.

To help fill in until “Star

Trek: Discovery” begins, a previously announced spin-off of CBS’ “The Good Wife,” starring Christine Baranski, will debut next February on the network and then move to CBS All Access.



A red carpet revolt? Miley Cyrus takes a stand

LOS ANGELES

(AP)—If a celebrity doesn’t walk a red carpet, are they still a celebrity?

In the next phase of her career, that’s the bold question Miley Cyrus will face after her unprecedented



vow to “never do a red carpet again.”

With Hollywood’s awards season kicking off at Sunday’s Primetime Emmys, will other celebs sidestep the frenzy and follow Cyrus off the carpet? In show business, such a daring declaration could have implications beyond what’s beneath those designer heels.

In recent years, media shenanigans on red carpets have prompted push-back from such A-listers as Julianne Moore, Reese Witherspoon and Jennifer Aniston.

Last awards season, they

opted against sticking their well-manicured and bejeweled hands in front of E!’s “mani-cam,” while younger actresses like Jena Malone and Elizabeth Moss publicly mocked the paw parade.

“I couldn’t care less, to be honest,” said Emmys host Jimmy Kimmel after ceremoniously unrolling the red carpet Wednesday morning outside the Microsoft Theater. “I’ll be up in my dressing room staring at people on the red carpet while it’s happening.”

Cyrus’ last appearance on a red carpet was back in December at the premiere of the Netflix film “A Very Murray Christmas.” Cyrus ominously captioned an Instagram photo of herself posing on it: “#haslastredcarpet4eva.” Apparently, she meant it.

Memories of awful boyfriend continue to linger years later

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, I dated an awful guy. He possessed just about every negative quality you could imagine. I dated him anyway because I was immature, depressed and lonely.

Since we broke up and I got my mental health back on track, my life has been wonderful. I keep moving up and forward in life. I hear through the grapevine that his life, on the other hand, is in shambles.

I blame myself for wasting the time I did with him. Sometimes when he pops into my head I get sick to my stomach. I’m afraid he might come back into my life and harm me because he blames me for his miserable life and bad choices.

How do you remove such a negative person from your memory? Is it possible to forget—especially when you want to?

ANNNOYED IN TEXAS

DEAR ANNOYED: Your experiences have made you the person you are, and at this point in your life, you have made yourself successful and happy. Congratulations for that. Now it’s time to stop listening to news about your ex-boyfriend through the grapevine.

When friends bring him up, tell them you aren’t interested. If he lives nearby, frequents the same places you do and has threatened you, talk to law enforcement or move. Give it time; time has a way of healing. It’s important that you continue getting on with your life. You may find fears

will dissipate once you find a new significant other.

DEAR ABBY: I’m someone who’s been chronically hot for as long as I can remember. In winter, I usually wear lighter clothes than most people so I can be comfortable. Unfortunately, complete strangers feel compelled to ask several times a day, “Aren’t you cold?” or say, “You’re crazy for dressing that way!”

I don’t feel I should have to justify my wardrobe, and I think calling someone crazy is out of line. I have pointed out to some people that how I dress is none of their business, at which point they take offense. (One guy even told me to “shove it where the sun don’t shine.”) I don’t think my response was inappropriate considering that they were the ones judging me. I’m the one who should have been upset. What can I say to these judgmental people without justifying myself and without evoking an angry response?

NOT CRAZY, JUST COMFORTABLE

DEAR NOT CRAZY: Most people are curious when they see something “different.” Wearing lightweight clothing in the dead of winter qualifies as different. If you are asked, all you need to say is that your body temperature runs hotter than most people’s, and you are perfectly comfortable. Period.

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine died recently. My question

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

is, how much time should I wait before asking his widow if she saved his hearing aids from the crematorium and if so, could I have them?

CHEAP MINNESOTAN

DEAR MINNESOTAN: You didn’t mention how long ago your friend died, but if it was yesterday, give the widow a week or two to recover from the shock of her loss. I say this because if you wait too long, somebody else may grab them, but if you ask too soon, she may give you an earful.

To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Watterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

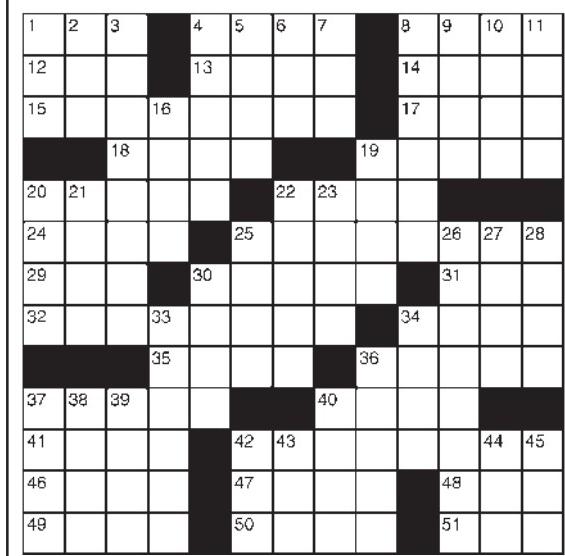
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	Young horses	16	Frozen desserts
1 Soft shoe, for short	37	Bolivian city	1 Silent	2 Indivisible
4 Fibbed	40	Tense denial	19 Bikini parts	3 Like "Green Acres" humor
8 — Raton	41	Help a hood	20 Big rig	21 It takes the cake
12 First numero	42	Dutch seat of government	22 Two-faced god	23 Desire
13 Nullify	43	Yemen neighbor	25 Crones	26 Bergman/Boyer movie
14 Yemen neighbor	44	Manitoba tribe	27 Squad	28 Tolkien creatures
15 Lemon pie topping	45	Rotunda top	29 Folk-singer Joan	30 Folksinger Joan
17 Tall and thin	46	FDR follower	31 Euphoric	32 Teeny bit
18 March Madness gp.	47	Lawn party site	33 Actor Sharif	34 Figure skater Sasha
19 Docking place	48	Anytime now	35 Quitter's word	36 Frilly
20 Serious	49	Water tester	37 Equal	38 Start of a spell
22 Court panel	50		40 "Finding —"	39 Equal
24 Peron and Longoria	51		42 QBs' goals	41 "Yoo- —!"
25 Diatribe	52		43 "Yoo- —!"	44 GI entertainers
29 Actor Gibson	53		45 Seine summer	46 "Who —?"
30 Forehead fringe	54			35 Minus

Solution time: 26 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-16

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nick Jonas, 24; Alexis Bledel, 35; Amy Poehler, 45; Mickey Rourke, 64.

Happy Birthday: You'll be faced with tough choices when dealing with partnerships and domestic matters. The sooner you size up your situation and make a motion to do what's best for you, the sooner you will ease the stress that comes along with change. Don't fight the inevitable, but look for the positive lessons you can draw from the changes that emerge. Your numbers are 1, 12, 17, 23, 31, 37, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Travel delays will arise if you don't have proper documents or don't abide by the rules. Your strength will come from personal growth and positive physical changes. Proper dieting and exercise is encouraged along with a romantic celebration. **★★★**

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Steady activity will bring solid results. Use your imagination to find solutions, but offer physical help to others and you will make an impact and boost your reputation. A partnership will result in good fortune. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An open mind and a reliable source of information will help you avoid being manipulated into something that isn't what it seems. Put more effort into making the physical alterations that will boost your confidence to follow your own path. **★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your outlook will capture the attention of someone in a high position. Expressing your

thoughts and speaking from the heart will have an impact, but could cause jealousy among your peers. A problem with a pet could arise. **★★★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your desire to get in the game is admirable, but try to be realistic about what you can and cannot do. Weigh the pros and cons and consider the potential losses you might face. Sometimes it's best to sit one out. **★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Emotional disillusionment will surface if you aren't being realistic about your current personal situation or standards of living. Ease up when it comes to spending and you'll avoid stress. A change in the way you handle money will be necessary. **★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Good fortune is within reach if you are willing to explore new possibilities. Don't hide out where no one will notice you. If you want to get ahead, you'll have to make an impression on those willing to help you excel. **★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Emotions will surface and are best channeled into some form of activity that will challenge you to do your best. Don't let frustration lead to anger or you'll lose sight of what you are trying to accomplish. **★★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't give in to temptation or get involved in something that will tarnish your reputation. Stick close to home and avoid conversations with anyone who is emotionally manipulative. Trust in yourself and gather information. **★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your outlook will capture the attention of someone in a high position. Expressing your

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have some interesting ideas when it comes to financial gains. Don't feel like you have to follow the crowd. You stand a better chance if you rely on your own expertise to help you gain ground. **★★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Discretion will be necessary if you want to avoid interference. Size up your situation and use your own financial means to bring about the changes that will improve your current work or domestic situation. Celebrate your victory with someone you love. **★★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Trust will be an issue and jealousy will lead to trouble. Problems will arise if you aren't honest with someone about the way you feel. Keep the peace and do your best to offer honesty, loyalty and affection. **★★**

Birthday Baby: You are inspiring, proactive and tireless. You are innovative and sensitive.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](#)/[facebook](#)/[linkedin](#).

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FREELANCE PROGRAMMERS

Solution: 9 letters

S	Y	S	T	E	M	A	I	N	F	R	A	M	E	G
T	S	E	T	T	T	N	E	T	N	O	C	T	N	N
E	R	I	H	I	P	R	O	F	I	L	E	I	I	I
T	R	A	N	S	L	A	T	E	A	T	G	N	R	
W	N	E	T	B	E	A	N	S	M	O	O	C	D	E
Y	G	A	M	E	S	O	S	T	L	B	S	E	E	
G	E	R	A	W	D	R	A	H	D	P	J	M	P	N
O	N	L	I											

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	5	7		6											
1		3	4		9										
	8	9	6	1	4										
	7														
9	2	4	8	5											
	9	1	5	7											
	6	3	2												

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	1	2	7	5	3	4	6	9
7	6	3	4	9	1	5	2	8
4	9	5	2	6	8	3	7	1
6	3	4	9	1	7	8	5	2
5	2	8	6	3	4	1	9	7
1	7	9	8	2	5	6	3	4
2	4	6	3	8	9	7	1	5
9	8	1	5	7	6	2	4	3
3	5	7	1	4	2	9	8	6

Difficulty Level ★★★★

9/16

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Algorithms, Code, Content, Course, Database, Debug, Design, Domain, Engineering, Fortran, Games, Hardware, Hire, Independent, Java, Login, Mainframe, NetBeans, Network, Objective, Online, Profile, Program, Projects, Python, Read, Ruby, System, Tables, Team, Technology, Temp, Test, Translate, Troubleshooting, Users, Website, Write

Yesterday's Answer: Hashtag

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Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM,	Civil Action No. 15-0086
Plaintiff,	
vs.	
FLORIDA A. GRIZZARD,	
Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 11, 2016, at 9:00 am, a hearing will be held before Judge Govendo on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgement in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 18th day of August, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC.
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION : CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0130

Plaintiff : -v-

ANTONIO C. BARCINAS AND RAMONA SN. BARCINAS : Defendants.

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. Dated August 24, 2016 by order of the Court.

/s/ Clerk of Court

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: CHIEF ACCOUNTANT (Property Management and Capital Accounts)

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Saipan, MP 96950

REPORTS TO: General Manager

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By Facsimile: (670) 235-2934; or by e-mail: hrd3@joeten.com

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If interested, send a digital copy of your resume with local references to whisperingpalms@saipan@gmail.com

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- **Education:** High school graduate or equivalent required; Technical school graduate desirable
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Classified Ads

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Classified Ads

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Cubs beat Cardinals to clinch playoff spot

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Anthony Rizzo hit a pair of home runs and Jon Lester pitched eight dominant innings as the Chicago Cubs beat the St. Louis Cardinals 7-0 on Wednesday to clinch a playoff berth.

The Cubs improved their major league-best record to 93-52 and lowered their magic number to one for clinching their first NL Central title since 2008. They can do it Thursday night with a win at home over Milwaukee or a St. Louis loss in San Francisco.

Chicago secured at least a wild card because the four-game series between the Cardinals and Giants makes it impossible for both to catch the Cubs in the standings.

The Cardinals remained a half-game behind the New York Mets and one game behind the Giants for the two NL wild cards.

Lester (17-4) allowed four baserunners, none of which got past first. Cubs catcher David Ross threw out two Cardinals trying to steal second, and Lester faced just two batters more than the minimum.

St. Louis starter Carlos Martinez (14-8) gave up four runs and eight hits in six innings.

Dodgers 2, Yankees 0

In New York, Los Angeles ace Clayton Kershaw pitched five nearly perfect innings be-



fore Justin Turner hit an RBI double off Dellin Betances in a two-run ninth.

The Dodgers took advantage of errors by second baseman Starlin Castro and Betances (3-5) to increase their NL West lead to five games over San Francisco.

The Yankees completed a 7-3 homestand and remained two games behind Toronto for the top AL wild card.

Zach Britton closed for

his 43rd save and Baltimore became the first team to beat Porcello at Fenway Park this season.

Nationals 1, Mets 0

In Washington, Tanner Roark pitched seven spotless innings and Wilson Ramos homered in the seventh inning as Washington beat New York.

With one out in the seventh, Ramos hit his 21st home run far over the center-field fence on the first pitch from Fernando Salas (0-1). The Nationals have won five of six.

Roark (15-8) allowed three hits with seven strikeouts and four walks, one intentional.

Tigers 9, Twins 6

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera's homer broke a seventh-inning tie, and Detroit rallied for a crucial victory.

The Tigers trailed 5-2 in the fourth inning, but came from behind to pull one game behind Toronto for the second AL wild card.

Ian Kinsler had four hits, falling a homer short of the cycle, and drove in three runs while scoring two. Brian Dozier and Kurt Suzuki homered, helping Houston keep its fading playoff hopes alive.

Altuve exited after the fourth with right oblique discomfort, and Bregman was pulled in the sixth with right hamstring discomfort.

Houston snapped a three-game losing streak and closed within 3 1/2 games of Toronto for the second AL wild card.

Padres 3, Giants 1

In San Francisco, Madison Bumgarner missed a chance at his 100th career win and San Francisco wasted another opportunity for a potential push in the NL West, getting swept by fourth-place San Diego.

Luis Perdomo (8-9) allowed one run in 6 1/3 innings of four-hit ball. Brandon Maurer

AP
St. Louis Cardinals' Randal Grichuk, right, is tagged out as he is caught trying to steal second by Chicago Cubs shortstop Addison Russell during the fifth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016, in St. Louis.

main six games ahead of Detroit in the AL Central.

Tomlin (12-8) allowed one run and four hits and walked none as he ended a personal five-game losing streak.

Athletics 8, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Yonder Alonso and Marcus Semien hit two-run doubles as Oakland beat Kansas City for the third straight game to further ruin the Royals' postseason chances.

The 2015 World Series champion Royals are five games out in the AL wild card with 17 games left and would have to climb over five teams.

A's rookie left-hander Sean Manaea (5-9) picked up his first career road victory, retiring 13 of the final 14 batters he faced in five scoreless innings.

Marlins 7, Braves 5

In Atlanta, Marcell Ozuna hit a three-run homer and Miami rallied to beat Julio Teheran and Atlanta in a testy game.

The benches for both teams emptied in the seventh inning after Atlanta reliever Jose Ramirez threw inside to Miami ace Jose Fernandez, who had been knocked to the ground by a pitch from Teheran (5-10) in the fifth.

No punches were thrown and Ramirez was ejected.

Phillies 6, Pirates 2

In Philadelphia, Freddy Galvis continued his home run surge, hitting his 19th of the season to lead the Phillies.

Galvis connected on a two-run shot in the second inning off Steven Brault (0-3) for his 10th homer in the last 32 games.

The Phillies got a rare boost on the mound from righty Jake Thompson (2-5). Thompson, who won for the first time since Aug. 12, allowed six hits and two runs over six solid innings.

Brewers 7, Reds 0

In Cincinnati, Junior Guerra pitched six shutout innings, Scooter Gennett and Domingo Santana homered and Milwaukee beat Cincinnati to avoid a three-game sweep.

Guerra (9-3), in his third start since coming off the disabled list with right elbow inflammation, allowed just one baserunner past second base -- Jose Peraza on a one-out triple in the third inning.

Bosh ready to play after clots



MIAMI (AP)—Chris Bosh has decided he's ready to play for the Miami Heat again.

He'll soon find out if the Heat agree.

Bosh, whose last two seasons were cut short by blood clots, said in a podcast released Wednesday that he's healthy and plans to be with his team for training camp that starts Sept. 27 in the Bahamas. He said he has not been cleared to play, and did not address if any new clots have formed in recent months.

"We released a statement back in May saying as soon as I'm ready to play, as soon as possible, we'll play," Bosh said. "And I'm ready."

Bosh made the comments on the "Open Run" podcast, part of LeBron James' digital platform called Uninterrupted. He had been almost completely silent about the issue since the second clot saga began with the discovery of one shortly after he arrived in Toronto on Feb. 11 for All-Star weekend events.

Bosh did not reveal that clot when he did interviews the following day.

On the podcast, he expressed frustration over not being able to return for Miami's playoff run last spring, said this offseason was a struggle and discussed how the bloodthinning regimen utilized by NHL player Thomas Fleischmann—whose career was also threatened by clots—was something he found intriguing.

"I'm not the first athlete to do this regimen," said Bosh, who did not specifically say if he's on bloodthinners. Bosh's representatives did not immediately respond to request seeking clarification.

Bosh went on bloodthinners after each of his first two known episodes with blood clots. Athletes in contact sports are generally discouraged from playing when taking such medication because of the heightened risks of bleeding and other complications.

Fleischmann has managed to return, and connected with Bosh through their agents

this summer.

"He asked how I'm doing it and how it works, how I was able to play hockey," said Fleischmann, a former member of the Florida Panthers. "I explained it to him. ... When I spoke to him he was pretty confident that he could play again and he wants to do everything he could to get back in the game."

Fleischmann—who expects to be on thinners for the rest of his life—was originally told he would never play hockey again because of clots. He told Bosh of his process, one where he takes thinners after practices and games and allows enough time to ensure that they're out of his system when he needs to play. He takes pills in the offseason and gets the medication via injections during the season.

"It stays in your system only for the dosage you put in," Fleischmann told The Associated Press. "You know exactly how many hours your blood is thin. After that it goes away and you can do whatever you want."

Shane Greene (5-4) got the win, while Ryan Pressly (6-7) took the loss after surrendering Cabrera's homer.

Astros 8, Rangers 4

In Houston, Jose Altuve and Alex Bregman both left with injuries, but George Springer and Teoscar Hernandez homered, helping Houston keep its fading playoff hopes alive.

Altuve exited after the fourth with right oblique discomfort, and Bregman was pulled in the sixth with right hamstring discomfort.

Houston snapped a three-game losing streak and closed within 3 1/2 games of Toronto for the second AL wild card.

The Astros got just their fourth win in 19 games against the Rangers this season.

Indians 6, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Josh Tomlin pitched five effective innings in his return to the Indians rotation, Coco Crisp hit a three-run homer in the sixth inning to break the game open and Cleveland beat Chicago to re-

WADA confirms hacking; Venus, Biles records posted

MONTREAL (AP)—The World Anti-Doping Agency said late Wednesday that a group of Russian “cyber-hackers” called Fancy Bears had leaked another batch of confidential athletes’ information from its database.

WADA said that similar to the leak that the agency announced on Tuesday, the group released confidential data of 25 athletes from eight countries “into the public domain.”

It said the targeted athletes included 10 from the United States, five from Germany, five from Britain, and one each from Czech Republic, Denmark, Poland, Romania and Russia. It did not identify the athletes.

On Tuesday, confidential medical data of gold medal-winning gymnast Simone Biles, seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams and other female U.S. Olympians was hacked and posted online.

They revealed records of “Therapeutic Use Exemptions” (TUEs), which allow

athletes to use otherwise-banned substances because of a verified medical need.

WADA said Wednesday that the Russian group had again illegally gained access to its Anti-Doping Administration and Management System, or “ADAMS,” and said it included confidential medical data such as TUEs.

“WADA is very mindful that this criminal attack, which to date has recklessly exposed personal data of 29 athletes, will be very distressing for the athletes that have been targeted and cause apprehension for all athletes that were involved in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games,” WADA director general Olivier Niggli said in a statement.

“To those athletes that have been impacted, we regret that criminals have attempted to smear your reputations in this way; and, assure you that we are receiving intelligence and advice from the highest level law enforcement and IT security agencies that we are putting into action.”



Niggli said WADA had “no doubt that these ongoing attacks are being carried out in retaliation against the agency, and the global anti-doping system,” because of independent investigations that exposed state-sponsored doping in Russia.

Williams, who won a silver medal in mixed doubles at the Rio Olympics last month,

issued a statement via her agent saying she was granted TUEs “when serious medical conditions have occurred,” and those exemptions were “reviewed by an anonymous, independent group of doctors, and approved for legitimate medical reasons.”

In a statement, USA Gymnastics said Biles—who won four gold and one silver medal

in Rio last month—was approved for an exemption and had not broken any rules.

Last month, hackers obtained a database password for Russian runner Yuliya Stepanova, a whistleblower and key witness for the WADA investigations. She and her husband, a former official with the Russian national anti-doping agency, are

This Aug. 6, 2016 file photo shows Venus Williams of the United States returning against Kirsten Flipkens of Belarus at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Confidential medical data of gold medal-winning gymnast Simone Biles, seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams, and other female U.S. Olympians was hacked from a World Anti-Doping Agency database and posted online Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2016. AP



now living at an undisclosed location in North America.

The International Olympic Committee said after Tuesday’s WADA statement that it “strongly condemns such methods which clearly aim at tarnishing the reputation of clean athletes.”

“The IOC can confirm however that the athletes mentioned did not violate any anti-doping rules during the Olympic Games Rio 2016,” the Olympic body said.

The name “Fancy Bears” appears to be a tongue-in-cheek reference to a collection of hackers that many security researchers have long associated with Russia.

In a statement posted to its website early Tuesday, the group proclaimed its allegiance to Anonymous, the loose-knit movement of online mischief-makers, and said it hacked WADA to show the world “how Olympic medals are won.”

“We will start with the U.S. team which has disgraced its name by tainted victories,” the group said, warning that more revelations about other teams would be forthcoming.

Marshall, Stewart fined for hits on Newton



E N G L E - WOOD, Colo.

(AP)—Big dents to their bank accounts for helmet-to-helmet hits on Cam Newton aren’t deterring Denver Broncos defenders Brandon Marshall and Darian Stewart.

“I’ll do it again,” Marshall declared shortly after saying he’ll fight his \$24,309 fine for launching himself at Newton in Denver’s 21-20 win over the Carolina Panthers in the NFL opener last week.

“I’m not going to change the way I play the game,” asserted Stewart, who was fined \$18,231 for his high hit against

the league’s reigning MVP.

Marshall wasn’t flagged for his hit, which the NFL deemed an “impermissible use of the helmet (including illegal launching),” according to its 2016 schedule of fines.

Stewart was fined for roughing the QB in the final minute, a penalty that was nullified on the field when Newton was whistled for intentional grounding. Although Stewart’s hit left Newton motionless on the ground, he wasn’t checked for a concussion until after the game.

Super Bowl MVP Von Miller and cornerback Bradley Roby didn’t find FedEx envelopes in their lockers like Mar-

shall and Stewart did Wednesday as they avoided any fines for their own helmet-to-helmet hits on Newton.

“For what? We didn’t do anything,” Miller told The Associated Press. “I could see if we did something wrong.”

The four hits on Newton, three of which weren’t flagged, sparked a debate about league safety, the viability of option quarterbacks in the NFL and the notion that Denver plays dirty.

Newton dismissed news of the fines.

“My job is to win football games, not lobby for my health,” Newton said

Wednesday, adding he feels “great” and he didn’t want to “dwell on” the previous game and the hits.

The Broncos said their job was to keep playing stout defense.

“I’ll just say this: we play hard and we’re going to continue to play hard,” coach Gary Kubiak said. “It’s really difficult defensively when you have a quarterback who goes from a passer to a runner and you’re committed (as a defender) and that’s what I was just being aggressive, but not really aiming for the head.”

Panthers left tackle Michael Oher was glad to hear about the fines, but would have preferred flags.

“Well, I wish some calls could have gotten made in the game,” he said. “There were some calls that could have been made. But maybe in the future he will be treated more like a quarterback.”

“We understand that you have to stay away from the head, but we’re going to continue to play hard. That one’s

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Ronaldo, Morata save Madrid in Champions League

MADRID (AP)—Cristiano Ronaldo and Alvaro Morata scored very late goals as Real Madrid came from behind to beat Sporting Lisbon 2-1 and avoid starting the defense of its Champions League title with a shock defeat on Wednesday.

Ronaldo equalized from an 89th minute free kick against his former club and Morata netted the winner deep in injury time to give the hosts a hard-fought victory in a match Sporting had largely under control.

"I'm happy with the points. We suffered but never gave up," Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "I don't know if the result was fair or not, but it's clear we believed. You have to play until the end. It wasn't a perfect match, you never see a perfect match, but the important thing was to win."

Madrid, trying to become the first team to win back-to-back Champions League titles since the tournament's new format went into effect in 1992-93, avoided what would have been only its second loss in 31 Champions League matches at home. It has won 27 times and drawn three at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.

Sporting was just a few minutes away from its first win in 11 matches in Spain in UEFA competitions. Madrid almost lost at home to a Portuguese team for the first time.

Boosted by a loud visiting crowd, Sporting played well from the start, defending with efficiency and creating dangerous chances up front with well-timed counterattacks and accurate passing.

Man City 4, Borussia 0

In Manchester, a 24-hour delay couldn't put prolific Man-



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo runs with the ball next to Sporting's William Carvalho during a Champions League, Group F soccer match between Real Madrid and Sporting, at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016. AP

chester City striker Sergio Aguero off his stride in the Champions League.

Aguero scored a hat trick to lead City to a win over Borussia Moenchengladbach in their rescheduled Group C opener that was washed out Tuesday because of torrential rain before kickoff at Etihad Stadium.

The Argentina international is compiling some impressive numbers under new coach Pep Guardiola this season: Nine goals in five games; two hat tricks so far in the Champions League, with the other coming in the playoff round against Steaua Bucharest.

Monaco 2, Tottenham 1

In London, Tottenham's

Champions League relocation to Wembley Stadium got off to a bad start with a loss to in-form Monaco on Wednesday.

Goals by Bernardo Silva and Thomas Lemar put the French league leaders 2-0 ahead after 36 minutes at English football's national stadium.

Spurs reduced the deficit through Toby Alderweireld's header on the stroke of halftime, but couldn't make the most of lots of possession in the second half.

Leicester 3, Brugge 0

In Belgium, Leicester opened its first Champions League campaign with a comfortable victory against Belgian champion Club Brugge on Wednesday, with Riyad Mahrez scor-

ing twice.

The unlikely English Premier League champion took its charmed form into Europe, with Marc Albrighton

scoring an easy goal after just five minutes. The Brugge defense misjudged a long throw-in and the winger only had to steer the ball into an

empty net.

A bad pass forced veteran Timmy Simons to bring Jamie Vardy down near the penalty box in the 28th minute and Mahrez curled the free kick home to make the rest of the Group G match a stroll for Leicester.

Mahrez scored his second goal from the penalty spot in the 61st minute, after Vardy had been floored by the goalkeeper on a breakaway.

Juventus 0, Sevilla 0

In Italy, Juventus star striker Gonzalo Higuain was largely anonymous as his new side was held to a disappointing 0-0 draw by Sevilla in their opening group match in the Champions League on Wednesday.

tine said.

The club is still holding fundraising events and accepting donations for their participation in this year's Micro Cup.

"We want to thank the Napu Outrigger Canoe Club and the Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club for their support and for allowing our teams to train on their outrigger canoes. I also want to thank the parents and the families of all our SPC junior paddlers for their continued and untiring support. We would also like to thank the business and the local communities for their generous in-kind and monetary support for our fundraising events. Without all these supports, our SPC teams would not be able to train and represent our Commonwealth and the club in this upcoming event in Palau," the SPC president said.

SPC will be battling squads from Palau, Guam, FSM, and Justine picked the host team as the favorites in next month's competition.

"We never dismiss the power of the 'home-court advantage' therefore we know Palau will be tough to beat. This is not to mention that visiting teams from the region are not going to be tough to beat, they have all put in time and efforts to be unbeaten—we look forward to the camaraderie and the rich paddling experience our SPC paddlers will learn from this competition," Justine added.

back quickly with a 25-12, 25-21, 11-15 victory over SCS yesterday at the latter's court in Susupe.

Three other matches were scheduled yesterday, but results were unavailable at press time. Over at the Mt. Carmel School Gym, MCS 1 was to host MBA, while MCS 2 was the visiting team in its game against SDA. At the Whispering Palms School court in Navy Hill, WPS was slated to duel Agape.

Meanwhile, action in the middle school league will continue on Tuesday with Agape hosting MCS 2. Other pairings are SDA vs MCS 1 at MCS; MBA vs GCA 2 at GCA; SCS vs GCA 1 at SCS; and SIS 1 vs SIS 2 at the Geckos court.

KANOA

From Page 36

game away for good, 74-50, and secure this season's championship.

Dindo Pablo sparked Kanoa's pivotal surge as he knocked in a triple from the left key before adding a 2-point basket. Matt Duenas, who seemed to be not bothered by the knee injury that forced him to spend the remaining minute of Game 1 on the bench, also had 5 markers in that spurt, while Douglas Schmidt contributed a layup to finish off Fiesta.

Schmidt earlier in the first quarter buried two triples and Kanoa hit three straight shots from beyond the arc to dictate the tempo of the game. Ernest Duenas canned the other trey for Kanoa, which closed the first period ahead by double digits, 29-17.

The lead ballooned to 20 by

the end of the first half, 47-27, as Kanoa continued to find its target, while Fiesta fired blanks, as the deposed champion either missed shots or lost the leather. Kanoa clogged Fiesta's passing lanes, making it hard for Arjay Nonato and Rivera to nail baskets inside. Schmidt's long arms intercepted majority of those passes.

It did not help Fiesta that it also could not buy baskets from outside. Fiesta made only one triple, which came from Paul Quizon in the fourth period and was made when Kanoa was already in full control of the rubbermatch.

Kanoa, on the other hand, drilled 11 shots from the parking lot with Schmidt firing four and Pablo having three. Rodney Sacramento contributed two triples, while Ernest Duenas and Ricky Bustillo had one apiece.

Schmidt led all scorers with his 24 points, while Pablo and

Matt Duenas added 17 each. Nonato paced Fiesta with his 22 markers, but was held to 2 points as he spent majority of the fourth period on the bench. Jarett Matsutaro was the other double-figure scorer for Fiesta with his 10 markers, but most of them were garbage points. Elmer Esdrelon, Rivera, and Sedillo, who combined for 45 big points in their Game 1 win, totaled only 22 in the deciding Game 2. Sedillo had limited minutes in Game 2 and was held to 4 markers—a far cry from his 12 points in Game 1.

Kanoa 85 — Schmidt 24, Pablo 17, M. Duenas 17, E. Duenas 8, Bustillo 6, Sacramento 6, Villagomez 4, Usi 3.
Fiesta 66 — Nonato 22, Matsutaro 10, Esdrelon 9, Rivera 9, Macoto 6, Sedillo 4, Maratita 3, Quizon 3.

Scoring by quarters: 29-17, 47-27, 62-44, 85-66.

GCA

From Page 36

shutout after taking the third set, 15-8, fell to a 2-1 mark. A third set is played even if the winner has been decided to give teams more time to play.

GCA 1's string of three wins started with a victory over Whispering Palms last Sept. 8, 25-7, 25-3, 11-5. Actually, the Eagles began their campaign in the league with a loss to Agape Christian School during the competition's opening day last Sept. 6, but that match was nullified due to technicalities and will be played anew on a later date. Up next for GCA 1 was a game against Marianas Baptists Academy at

the former's home turf in Navy Hill, but last Tuesday's match was suspended due to rain. The Eagles then returned to the court last Wednesday and downed Seventh Day Adventists, 25-12, 25-7, 10-15, for their second consecutive triumph.

The Geckos, on the other hand, came from a win over Saipan Community School last Wednesday before bowing to GCA yesterday. SIS 1 prevailed in the first two sets, 25-19, 25-21, to get its second straight victory, while SCS topped the third set, 16-14.

In other results this week, Agape defeated GCA 2 last Wednesday, 25-18, 25-17, 12-15, while GCA 2 bounced

AFC U14 Regional (East) Festival of Football 2016

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



▲
CNMI U14 Boys National Team players and officials pose for a photo at the departure area of the Saipan International Airport before they leave for Beijing, China to compete in the AFC U14 Regional (East) Festival of Football 2016.



▲
CNMI head of delegation and NMIFA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, with glasses, talks to the players before starting a training session at the Xianghe National Football Training Center in Beijing, China.



Coach Jershwin Angeles, second left, joins the team's warm-up drills. **►**



►
CNMI co-team captain John Michael Rojas, 10, and his counterpart in Japan meet the game officials at center court.



CNMI players shake hands with their counterparts in Guam and with the match officials.



CNMI and Guam players and game officials enter the field.



The CNMI's starting 11 pose for a photo before their match versus South Korea.



CNMI players join the parade of teams during the opening ceremony of the festival.



Cubs beat
Cardinals to clinch
playoff spot

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Saipan Tribune Sports



WADA confirms
hacking; Venus,
Biles records
posted

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kanoa Resort dethrones Fiesta

GCA wins battle of unbeaten teams in middle school v-ball

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 Grace Christian Academy 1 outclassed Saipan International School 1 in the duel between the undefeated teams in the middle school division of the 2016-2017 Coalition of Pri-

vate Schools Sports Association Volleyball League. The Eagles clinched the victory early after sweeping the first two sets of their match yesterday at the GCA court, 25-11, 25-7, to improve their record to 3-0. The Geckos, who avoided a

See GCA on Page 34



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Grace Christian Academy 1's William Kim bumps the ball during the third set of their game against Saipan International School 1 in the COPSSA middle school volleyball league yesterday at the GCA court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Resort ended Fiesta Resort's two-year reign after cruising to an 85-66 victory in their winner-take-all game in the 2016 TanHoldings Inter-Company Basketball League last night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Kanoa, which had to play a rubber match against Fiesta after the latter pulled off a 91-90 win in Game 1 of their championship showdown last Friday, made sure there will be no more upset in the deciding tiff, dominating Game 2 right from the get-go and withstanding the dethroned champion's rally late in the third quarter all the way to the opening minute of the fourth.

Fiesta, which fell behind by as much as 27, 61-34, had a 10-2 1 windup in the final two minutes of the third period, capitalizing on the absence of Kanoa key players Matt and Ernest Duenas to bring the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kanoa Resort's Matt Duenas pulls up for a shot against Fiesta Resort's Elmer Esdrelon, left, and Jerald Rivera, third left, during the deciding Game 2 of their title duel in the TanHoldings caging last night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

deficit down to 18, 44-62, 2016 behind the back-to-back baskets of Jerald Rivera, with still 9:22 left in the final frame.

Fiesta then moved within 14, 48-62,



closest that Fiesta could get, as Kanoa countered with a killer 12-2 scoring run in a span of about three minutes to put the

See KANOA on Page 34

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Paddling Club will be fielding three teams in the Micro Cup, which will be held next month in the waters off Meyuns Ramp in Koror, Palau.

SPC head coach Justin Andrew said the club will have its junior girls team and men's and women's squads competing in the 500m and 1,500m sprint races and the three long distance events—6, 10, and 12-mile courses.

A total of 26 paddlers will represent SPC in the regional tournament with the group's women's team composed of Danica Calvo, Elaine Cabrera, Gerlyn Libunao, Krista Falig, Laarni Zapanta, Losanna Santos, Maria Valentina Haberman, Rica Concepcion, Sylvia



Taggart, and Jean Ballesteros. Justine Andrews leads SPC's men's squad and he will be teaming up with his son Joshua, John Mario, Scottie Litulumar, Glenn Muna, and Daniel Kaipat. The club's junior girls team, on the other hand, has Mika Ythemar, Jaslyn William, Dominique Calvo, Leanna Roligat, Josephine Aguon, Deanna Kapileo, Juanie Tenorio, and Catherine Reyes as members.

"This is the largest paddling group the club has ever sent to a competition. I think this will also be the biggest that CNMI will ever send to compete in this kind of tournament. Although SPC has sent its paddlers off island to compete in the Micro Cup in the past,

See SPC on Page 34

SPC to send 3 squads to Palau for Micro Cup



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Paddling Club's junior members work their way to the finish line of the 500m race in the All CNMI Juniors Outrigger Regatta 2016 held in May in the waters off Kilili Beach